Singleton's media monopoly: Will he soon own the *Chronicle* too? p5

Super Ego celebrates a decade of faggoty goodness p38

GUARDIAN

MAY 3 - 9, 2006 CELEBRATING 40 YEARS THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN VOL. 40, NO. 31 FREE

Revenge of the ink nerds

Daniel Clowes, the award-winning Bay Area cartoonist, takes his "Art School Confidential" comic to the big screen — and really, truly gets back at the academy p69

Then and now: Clowes in a self-portrait from his 1991 strip — and at home today in the Oakland foothills. | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY CHARLES RUSSO

EDITOR'S NOTES

By Tim Redmond
› tredmond@sfbg.com

The Healthy Saturdays folks were out leafleting in Golden Gate Park this weekend, on a stunningly beautiful Sunday, along with thousands of other people enjoying the car-free sunshine. The message on the handouts: Call the mayor (554-7111); the supervisors have approved a plan to at least try extending the car ban to Saturday, and now it's in the mayor's court.

Which will be interesting, as Steven T. Jones reports on page 19, because Gavin Newsom thinks of himself as an environmentalist who is pro-bicycle and pro–public transportation — but the people who were a big part of his political base from day one are upper-crust de Young Museum types who, for their own selfish reasons, don't want the roads in the park closed.

De Young Museum baroness Dede Wilsey and Ken Garcia, the *San Francisco Examiner*'s resident crank, are the chief architects of the argument that the Saturday road closure is a bad idea. They're pushing this God-and-the-flag line — "let the voters decide" — and claiming that since a similar plan lost at the ballot once, only a public referendum would be adequate authority for a rather simple land-use decision. Put it to the voters, they say; that's fair, right?

Well, I'm not here to dis American democracy or anything, but there's a little secret I want to share:

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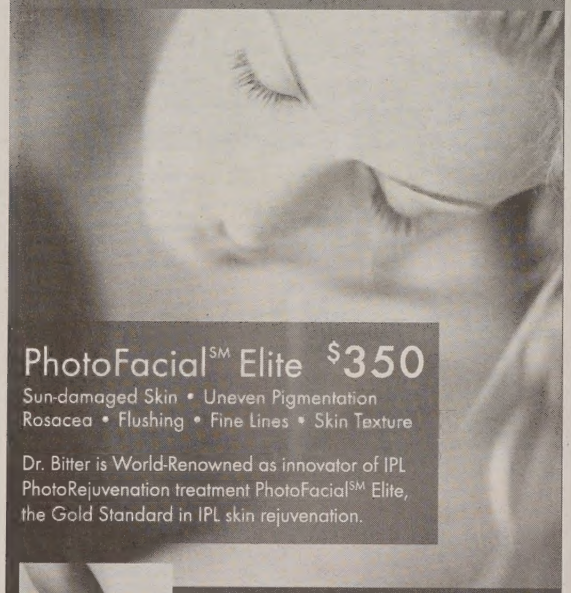

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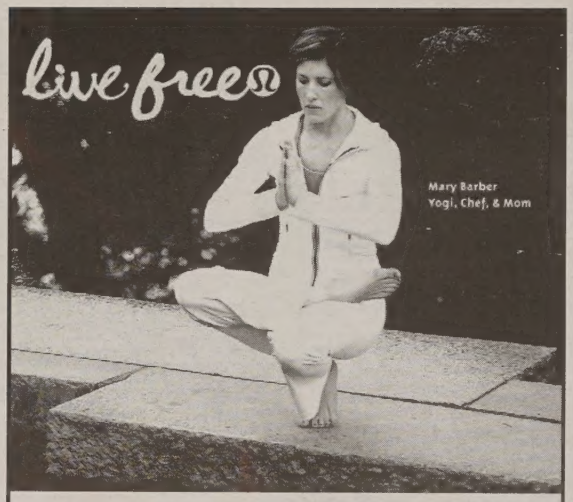

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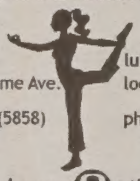

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Like Clear Channel radio stations, many smaller papers would have little or no staff, nobody to answer the phone, nobody to take local tips and cover local news … they would be nothing but shells of once-thriving community newspapers.

EDITOR'S NOTES

CONT››

Most elections aren't fair. Anytime the size of the electorate is larger than about 40,000 voters (a typical San Francisco supervisorial district), you can't effectively communicate your message without a big chunk of money — and the larger the jurisdiction, the more money it takes.

Consider California.

There are three major candidates for governor, and all of them are wealthy people. But only two are truly, obscenely, stinking rich, with wealth in the $100 million–plus range, and they are, right now, the odds-on favorites to make the November final — in large part because of their abilities to put personal wealth into the race. In other words, if you want to run for governor of California, being rich — garden-variety rich — isn't nearly enough.

The same goes for San Francisco, on a different sort of scale. If citywide elections were fair, and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. didn't have the ability to write a blank check every time an activist group tried to pass a public-power measure, San Francisco would have kicked out the private-power monopoly half a century ago. If citywide elections were fair, and Gavin Newsom didn't have the ability to outspend Matt Gonzalez by a factor of about 6 to 1, the odds are at least even that Gonzalez would be mayor today.

That's why Dede Wilsey and Ken Garcia, who both know better, are blowing some sort of smoke when they call for a "vote of the people."

But maybe we should call their bluff. How's this for a deal:

The museum folks have plenty of money, so Wilsey can raise, say, $200,000. Then she can split it in half — she gets $100,000, and the road-closure activists get $100,000. No outside, "independent" expenditures (they can control their side, and we can control ours), no tricks, no bullshit. Level playing field, fair election — and let's see who can walk more precincts and turn out more people on election day. That same model would work for all kinds of civic disputes.

Fair? SFBG

PS *As an in-line skater with plenty of bruises to prove it, I have another suggestion: For even-more-healthy Saturdays, maybe they could resurface the roads.*

SINGLE TOWN?
This map, prepared by the San Jose Newspaper Guild, shows all of the newspapers that will soon be owned by Dean Singleton's MediaNews Group. MediaNews started out with 11 papers, and the addition of 33 Knight-Ridder papers will give the Denver-based outfit a total of 44 daily and community papers in the Bay Area.

Most of the daily newspaper coverage of the deal (including the coverage by Knight-Ridder and MediaNews papers) has focused on the four biggest papers involved and ignored the smaller papers altogether — a sign, perhaps, that neither chain cares that much about community publications.

Currently owned by MediaNews: (1) *Alameda Times Star*; (2) *Fremont Argus*; (3) *Hayward Daily Review*; (4) *Marin Independent Journal*; (5) *Milpitas Post*; (6) *Oakland Tribune*; (7) *Pacifica Tribune*; (8) *San Mateo County Times*; (9) *Tri-Valley Herald*; (10) *Reporter (Vacaville)*; (11) *Vallejo Times-Herald*.

Currently owned by Knight-Ridder, soon to be taken over by MediaNews: (1) *Alameda Journal*; (2) *Almaden Resident*; (3) *Berkeley Voice*; (4) *Brentwood News*; (5) *Burlingame Daily News*; (6) *Campbell Reporter*; (7) *Concord Transcript*; (8–11) Contra Costa Newspapers *(Contra Costa Times, West County Times, Valley Times, San Ramon Times)*; (12) *Contra Costa Sun*; (13) *Cupertino Courier*; (14) *East Bay Daily News*; (15) *El Cerrito Journal*; (16) *Antioch Ledger-Dispatch*; (17) *Los Gatos Daily News*; (18) *Los Gatos Weekly-Times*; (19) *Montclarion*; (20) *Monterey County Herald* (not shown); (21) *Palo Alto Daily News*; (22) *Pleasant Hill/Martinez Record*; (23) *Piedmonter*; (24) *Redwood City Daily News*; (25) *Rose Garden Resident*; (26) *San Jose Mercury News*; (27) *San Mateo Daily News*; (28) *Saratoga News*; (29) *Sunnyvale Sun*; (30) *Salinas Valley Advisor* (not shown); (31) *Walnut Creek Journal*; (32) *West County Weekly*; (33) *Willow Glen Resident*. MediaNews owns 29 other California publications.

Stop Singleton's media grab

EDITORIAL At first glance, it looks like one of the oddest deals in recent newspaper history: McClatchy, the Sacramento-based newspaper chain, buys the much bigger Knight-Ridder chain, then sells two of the Knight-Ridder papers to MediaNews Group, run by Dean Singleton out of Denver, and two to the New York City–based Hearst Corp., which owns the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Then Hearst immediately sells its two papers to Singleton's shop, in exchange for an equity share in MediaNews operations outside of the Bay Area.

The upshot: MediaNews will take over the *San Jose Mercury News* and the *Contra Costa Times*, along with some 33 small-market dailies and weeklies, which, combined with the 11 Bay Area papers the chain already owns, will give Singleton control of every major daily newspaper in the Bay Area except the *Chronicle*.

It creates the potential for a newspaper monopoly of stunning proportions — and threatens the quality of journalism in one of the most populous, educated, and liberal regions in the nation. Singleton, known as "lean Dean" for his cost-cutting moves, is likely to slash staffing at papers like the *Times* and the *Merc*, consolidate news gathering, and offer readers less local news.

In fact, in its most recent annual report, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, MediaNews outlined its strategy for profitability. "One of our key acquisition strategies is to acquire newspapers in markets contiguous to our own," the report states. This so-called clustering strategy allows the company to consolidate advertising and business functions as well as news gathering. "We seek to increase operating cash flows at acquired newspapers by reducing labor costs," the report notes.

In other words, a smaller number of reporters will be doing fewer stories, which will run in more papers. This, Luther Jackson, executive officer of the San Jose Newspaper Guild, argues, "means cookie-cutter coverage and fewer voices contributing to important public policy debates."

There are deeper concerns with this deal — including the possibility that Hearst and Singleton could be forming an unholy alliance that would nearly wipe out daily competition in the Bay Area.

The whole mess has its roots in the decision by the Knight-Ridder board several months ago to put the company up for sale. It was the kind of decision that demonstrates the problems with treating newspapers like baseball cards, to trade on the open market: Knight-Ridder was quite profitable,

CONTINUES ON PAGE 6››

A dose of reality on immigration

EDITORIAL The massive immigrant rallies, marches, and work boycotts on May 1 may have been an inconvenience to some, and the sight of tens of thousands of undocumented workers demonstrating in the streets may have offended a few politicians, but that's true with all great social movements. And there's little doubt that this is a new, great social movement.

The point of the May Day actions was to demonstrate the economic importance of immigrants — and to send a not so subtle message to Congress that punitive, regressive immigration "reforms" won't be tolerated quietly. The legislators in Washington, DC, can debate the finer details of amnesties and guest-worker programs, and the activists can argue over political tactics, but there are a few key points that should never get lost.

Immigration can't be addressed with fences, border patrols, and felony prosecutions. As long as economic conditions in places like Mexico and Central America (and political conditions in dozens of other places) are dismal, people will try to come to the United States — and they will always find ways of getting here.

The overwhelming majority of those immigrants contribute mightily to the nation's economy and to the fabric of society. The waves of immigration over the years have always made this a better country.

The laws that criminalize undocumented immigrants are cruel, sometimes deadly, and immensely expensive. They're also a complete failure, and always will be.

The only way to really address this issue is to get beyond the rhetoric and face some facts:

• The reason most immigrants come to the United States is economic necessity. If we want fewer people from Mexico crossing the border, then we can help them make a

CONTINUES ON PAGE 8››

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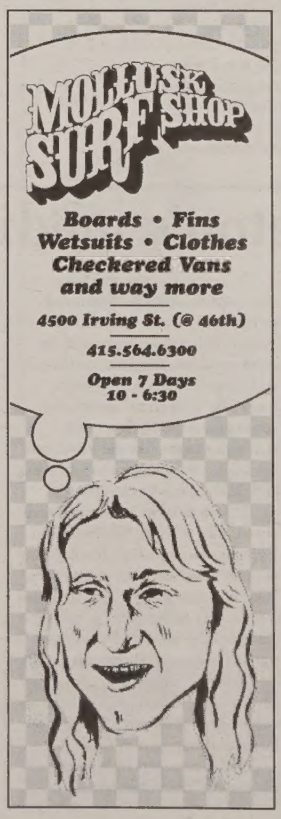


SINGLETON

CONT>>

ran some of the better newspapers in the nation, and had a reputation (by chain standards, anyway) of being willing to spend money on the editorial product. But the stock price wasn't quite high enough, and a few big shareholders (who weren't satisfied with 20 percent profits) were complaining, so the entire company went on the block.

McClatchy, a well-managed company that has the *Sacramento Bee* as its flagship, wanted some of the Knight-Ridder papers — but only the ones in fast-growing markets. So after submitting a winning bid, the McClatchy folks starting looking for ways to dump the *San Jose Mercury News,* the *Contra Costa Times,* the *Monterey Herald,* the *St. Paul Pioneer-Dispatch,* and some 20 smaller community papers in the Bay Area.

But why, exactly, is Hearst getting involved? Well, Peter Scheer, a former antitrust lawyer who runs the California First Amendment Coalition, has some theories. The first possible reason? Hearst has plenty of cash on hand, and the deal would allow MediaNews to avoid having to seek as much financing from bankers.

More likely: Hearst — through the *Chronicle* — would have been Singleton's only local competitor, and is the only significant political player in California that could have pressured regulators to oppose the deal. The arrangement, Scheer says, turns Hearst from a potential foe into a partner. Already the two companies have announced they may seek to share distribution systems. And there may be other plans in the works.

In fact, one of the most interesting ideas about the deal comes from a former *Chronicle* assistant managing editor, Alan Mutter, who writes a blog called Reflections of a Newsosaur (newsosaur.blogspot.com). Mutter suggests that the deal might lead to the end of real newspaper competition in the Bay Area, for once and for all. "Hearst," he speculates, "hopes at some point to work with MediaNews to extricate itself from the costly problem posed by the *San Francisco Chronicle,* which is widely believed to be losing about $1 million per week."

The idea: Down the road, Hearst merges the *Chron* with MediaNews — or, if the Justice Department won't allow that, the two companies enter into a joint operating agreement. A JOA works like this: The two companies share all printing, business, sales, and distribution operations, run two theoretically separate newsrooms, and at the end of the day split the profits. The *Chron* and the *Examiner* were run for years under a JOA, and it was terrible for readers: With no economic incentive to compete, both papers stagnated. But it can be the equivalent of a license to print money.

"Unlike some publishers who shun JOA relationships," Mutter notes, "Dean Singleton has embraced them — and seems to be making them work — in places like Denver and Detroit. Is the *San Francisco Chronicle* next on his list?"

Imagine what a near-complete monopoly of Bay Area dailies in the hands of a notorious cost-cutter would mean. For starters, we can count on more standardized, conservative politics (at least the Knight-Ridder papers opposed the war). Perhaps all reporting and editing would be consolidated into one newsroom, in San Francisco or San Jose. Like Clear Channel radio stations, many smaller papers might wind up with little or no staff, nobody to answer the phone, nobody to take local tips and cover local news . . . they'd be nothing but shells of once-thriving community newspapers. They would have abandoned the crucial local-watchdog role of a daily newspaper (and made life more difficult for the few remaining independents).

The fact that this is a possible, even likely, scenario is alarming. In short order, one company could control every major daily in the Bay Area (except the *Examiner* and the *Santa Rosa Press-Democrat*) — fixing prices, sharing markets, pooling profits, and keeping ad rates artificially high and the quality of journalism abysmally low.

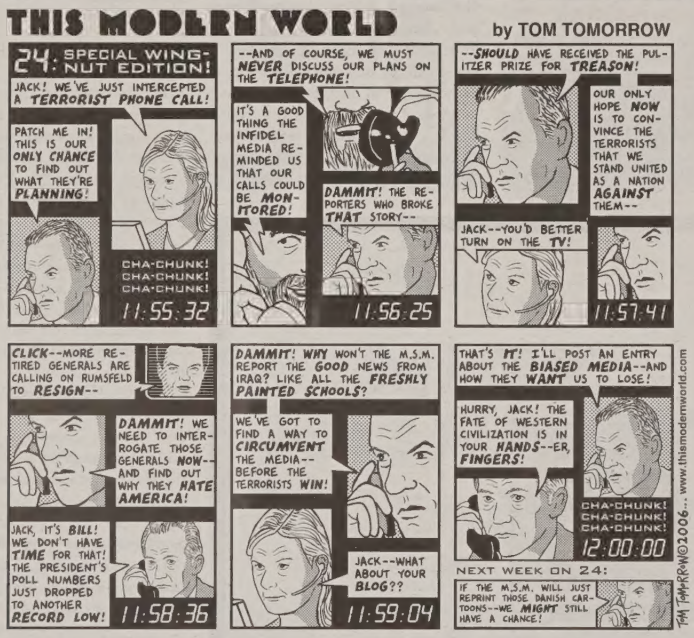
Have there been discussions around this? What is Hearst's real interest here, and how does it jibe with Singleton's dream of a massive regional "cluster"? Until we know the answers, the MediaNews-McClatchy deal should never go forward.

It's almost too much to ask that the Bush administration, which loves big-business mergers, give it a thorough review. But the California attorney general has grounds to challenge it too.

AG Bill Lockyer completely ducked on the deal that merged the two largest chains in the alternative press, Village Voice Media and New Times. He can't be allowed to duck this one: There must be a detailed, public investigation, and the newspaper chains must come clean and release the details of the deal. The two leading Democratic candidates for attorney general, Jerry Brown and Rocky Delgadillo, need to make this a top issue in the campaign. It should be an issue in the governor's race, and every city and town that's affected, including San Francisco, should pass a resolution against the merger. SFBG

PS *Local arts and community organizations on the Peninsula are alarmed about the deal for another reason: Knight-Ridder contributes millions of dollars a year to those groups. Will Singleton continue that tradition?*

The public only receives a wish list of the district's proposed requested amounts for each budget item.



No more bogus school budgets

OPINION Spring means budget season at the San Francisco Unified School District.

Under the state Education Code, the SFUSD is required to present its proposed budget to the public. But each year the published budget leaves out the actual amounts of money that the district spent on each item in the previous year. It doesn't even include the past year's budgeted amount.

The public only receives a wish list of the district's proposed requested amounts for each budget item.

Recently, the SFUSD negotiated a new contract with its largest union, United Educators of San Francisco. The contract gives an 8.5 percent raise to the district's hard-working teachers, paraprofessionals, and nurses. In the fall the mayor and his staff mediated a new contract with a 4 percent raise for the SFUSD's second-largest union, SEIU Local 790. United Administrators of San Francisco also negotiated a new contract with the SFUSD in the early spring.

At the same time, both federal and state funding for education has decreased. The SFUSD's enrollment has also declined over the last 30 years. So the San Francisco Board of Education closed four schools and two child care centers in 2005. Three more schools are scheduled to close in June, while another two elementary schools are scheduled to be "merged" with two other schools.

Last year it was revealed that a reserve fund for a new school of the arts had been used to meet the district's budget shortfalls. That reserve fund is now being repaid by funds that the SFUSD gets from developer fees.

The district is projecting a deficit of $5.8 million for the next fiscal year and an even greater deficit in 2007 and 2008. The board will have to make difficult choices in order to balance the next year's budget in these challenging times. It also must pass a budget that is accepted by its stakeholders — parents, teachers, paraprofessionals, janitors, clerks, other key staff, and the community.

But that can only happen if the district brings parents and other stakeholders meaningfully into the budget process. People can only participate if they have useful information — like how much the district has spent on budget items in the past as well as how much the district wants to spend on those items in the next fiscal year.

Other public school districts, like Fresno's, have developed budgets that are easy to follow. The budged of the city and county of San Francisco allows its stakeholders to participate in the budget process by showing each item's "actual money spent" and the previous year's budget amount.

A transparent budget that everyone understands is the only way we as a community can hold the district accountable and build more public trust and support in our schools. SFBG

Kim Knox

Kim Knox is an education activist who is running for San Francisco School Board in November 2006.

The SFUSD will be having a community budget workshop at Everett Middle School May 13.

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LETTERS

A PEOPLES TEMPLE SURVIVOR REMEMBERS

As a defector/survivor of Peoples Temple, a bit of whose testimony is used in the film [*Jonestown: The Life and Death of Peoples Temple*] about what led up to Jonestown, I want to thank the *Guardian* and Matt Gonzalez for the excellent and revealing interview ["28 Years Later," 4/5/06]. I also want to commend this film to your readers. It recapitulates in 90 minutes what nothing else in an audiovisual medium has captured, and brought the experience back to life for me in all its bittersweet, insufferable promise.

However, I do want to offer a few corrections/provisos. Jim Jones may have sold monkeys back in Indiana door-to-door, but once he arrived in Ukiah, he found two jobs, one as a full-time sixth-grade teacher — requiring a 50-mile commute over a range of mountains — and the other as an adult-school instructor of US history and government. His wife worked full-time for the state as an inspector of hospitals and nursing home facilities. Neither of them took a penny from the church for many years, not until the process of communalization, a painfully slow one, was well under way.

As to "CIA-related theories," which the filmmaker dismisses, it's not a matter of conjecture that the CIA was actively collecting intelligence about Peoples Temple and Jonestown. It's a matter of demonstrable fact to which I, for one, can testify, if necessary, in court. What is debatable is the degree of the involvement of the CIA and other US intelligence agencies in covert operations that might have played a criminal role in helping to bring about the final solution at Jonestown.

Then, of course, there are related questions about the mirror role of the KGB actively vetting Jones and our militants for a proposed exodus to the Soviet Union, which would have provided quite a propaganda coup for the other side in the cold

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IMMIGRATION

CONT.>>

decent living where they are. Imagine what $277 billion (the amount the United States has spent to date on the war in Iraq) would do for economic development in neighboring countries.

• Big corporations love "free trade" agreements, but in the United States those deals only allow money and goods, not people, to move freely. In Europe, people can move too — but to make that possible, the wealthier nations of the European Union have poured billions of dollars into the less developed areas.

• There's no way to get rid of the 12 million people who are living illegally in the United States, and even talking about it is a terrible idea. Offering them all citizenship, today, would solve a whole lot more problems that it would create. People who don't fear deportation can fight abusive landlords, take sick kids to clinics, join labor unions, vote, and refuse to accept economic, political, and social abuse.

And that's better for everyone. SFBG

LETTERS

CONT.>>

war. It's perhaps not the role of a documentary such as this, prepared for the family audience of PBS, to confront the power of the corporate state. But the raw emotional immediacy of Stanley Nelson's film, nonetheless, invites viewers to question the received wisdom for themselves. For this alone I'm amazed and grateful.

Garrett Lambrev
Oakland

THE LAZIEST SUPERVISOR

Your recent article about Sup. Fiona Ma declaring the Ellis Act a good tool comes as little surprise to me ["Ma Is as Ma Does," 4/12/06]. Anyone who has been watching closely knows that Ma is the laziest San Francisco supervisor and a bad by-product of the Burton-Brown machine. She has not authored one piece of important legislation during her term as supervisor and consistently votes for downtown interests and against the interests of district residents.

During this past year she was the only supervisor to vote no on keeping the independent Four Star Theater in my district. Ma always votes the way Mayor Gavin Newsom wants her to vote.

Loren Lopin
San Francisco

MISSING: THE PUBLIC PERSPECTIVE

The city's open government laws do seem to be coming under attack, as your April 19 editorial notes ["Sunshine Smoke Screens"]. But as someone who has brought more than half a dozen successful complaints about San Francisco Public Library violations that were upheld at hearings of the Sunshine Ordinance Task Force, it is also disheartening to see the SOTF itself defending Sunshine with less vigor and fairness than one would hope to see.

I attended the special meeting of the task force's Education, Outreach and Training Committee March 22, and two subsequent full SOTF meetings in March and April, and found little apparent interest in reports of violations by departments against citizens — including my report of an ongoing library violation that the SOTF sent one and a half years ago, in October 2004, to the district attorney and the Ethics Commission for enforcement.

Although enforcement action is reportedly still pending, the task force apparently does not formally monitor or follow up on such violation findings sent for enforcement.

The SOTF has also repeatedly invited city departments to comment on issues, including Sunshine Ordinance amendments, without providing to the public similar invitations and extended presentation opportunities. Amendments currently under discussion include backward steps of a city policy body if one of its committees has had a public hearing on the matter.

Peter Warfield
Executive director
Library Users Association
San Francisco

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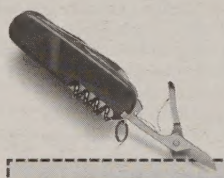

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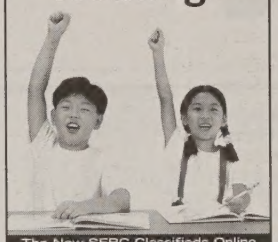

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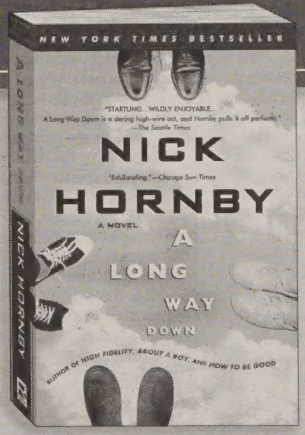

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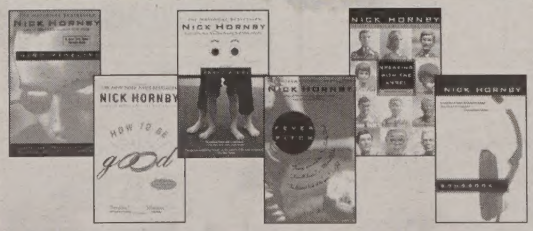

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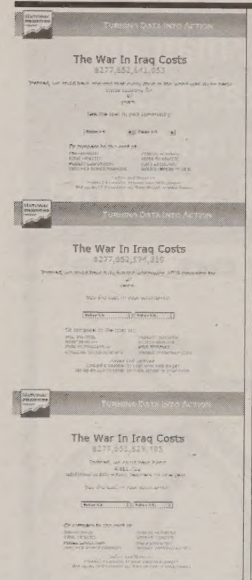

WEB SITE OF THE WEEK

WWW.COSTOFWAR.COM

This is nothing new, but it's presented in a stunning and powerful fashion: The total cost of the war in Iraq appears as a running total — you can watch as nearly $10,000 a second goes into this policy nightmare — and the site offers comparisons showing what else that money would have paid for in a local community. In San Francisco, for example, we could have built more than 8,000 new low-income housing units with our share of the war tax.

May Day madness

The labor, immigrant rights, antiwar, and other leftist movements converged in a powerful way on May Day in San Francisco — and in large cities around the world. Events lasted all day long, and the noontime march up Market Street rivaled the biggest of the massive antiwar marches before the Iraq War in terms of numbers and intensity, creating a solid mass of marchers — most wearing white T-shirts and waving red flags — stretching from Justin Herman Plaza to the Civic Center.

The main message was one of unified opposition to recent legislative attacks on illegal immigration, and the most common chant was *"Sí se puede!"* But the broader theme was one of people power, the pulling together of myriad factions on the international day of the worker to send a clear and unmistakable message of resistance to imperial excesses.

"Down with the PATRIOT Act. Uphold the Bill of Rights. Defend immigrant workers' rights. Bush's 'war on terror' = war on workers," declared a banner carried by the International Longshore and Warehouse Workers Union Local 10. Another banner read: "We are workers, not criminals. Today we march, tomorrow we'll vote."

(Steven T. Jones)

Divide vs. dividends

Before Philadelphia signed a contract in April with Earthlink to construct a high-speed wireless Internet network, the deal was sweetened by the company with 10,000 computers and training for kids and underserved communities.

Earthlink CEO Donald Berryman told the Associated Press at the time that "he's not concerned if other cities seek concessions similar to those in Philadelphia's deal." Berryman expected the deal to be profitable either way.

So the Bay Area nonprofit Media Alliance is calling on Mayor Gavin Newsom to ensure that current contract negotiations with a Google-Earthlink partnership to provide free wireless service to city residents include sweeteners for kids and poor folks who may not even have computers.

The city formed a task force April 20 designed in part to focus on "bridging the digital divide" between the rich and the poor, as the mayor is fond of saying. Media Alliance warned that any recommendations the task force makes would need "robust funding" from the Google-Earthlink deal in order to avoid looking like mere window dressing.

"Part of what we're saying is Google has $10 billion in cash," Media Alliance program director Sydney Levy said. "They cannot just come to the city and offer nothing. We have general concerns about inclusion."

Levy said the task force, on which he sits, isn't scheduled to meet until mid-May, which might be too late given that representatives of the Mayor's Office are now negotiating with Google-Earthlink and an agreement is expected at any time.

(G.W. Schulz)

The $30,322 question

So what's the link between the archconservative, antienvironmental Rep. Richard Pombo (R–Tracy) and the progressive UNITE HERE union?

Money, and lots of it. Nestled among the top 20 contributors to Pombo's career since 1989 — the National Association of Realtors, the National Rifle Association, Safari Club International, the National Auto Dealers Association, and Chevron Texaco among others — is a rather large $30,322 contribution from UNITE HERE.

This puts the well-known progressive union representing textile, hotel, restaurant, casino, and industrial laundry workers in some pretty strange company. As Tim Paulson, executive director of the San Francisco Labor Council, noted in an understatement of heroic dimensions: "It is highly unusual for a labor union to be supporting a candidate, and give money to a candidate, who is a registered Republican."

We tried to ask UNITE HERE about these intriguing donations, but apart from one local official who expressed off-the-record shock and surprise, no one would talk to us. Not UNITE HERE's national political director, neither its California political director, nor spokeswoman Amanda Cooper returned repeated phone calls to explain the contributions to Pombo. Oddly enough, the only person not surprised by the donation was Wayne Johnson, Pombo's spokesman, who said, "Pombo has had union support for a long time [due to] his support for building roads, levees, dams, and infrastructure."

While that explains why the carpenter's union might support Pombo, it does not explain what UNITE HERE is up to.

(Tim Kingston)

Thousands of protesters formed a human chain across the Golden Gate Bridge April 30 to call attention to the genocide taking place in the Darfur region of Sudan, an atrocity that has gotten worse in recent months. The event was organized by the San Francisco Bay Area Darfur Coalition and coincided with a larger event in Washington, DC, in which Rep. Tom Lantos and others were arrested for blocking the entrance to the Sudanese embassy.

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Revitalization carries the danger that the community will be made safe for real estate agents, developers, and urban professionals who quickly eliminate less desirable residents.

ALERTS

By Deborah Giattina
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SATURDAY, MAY 6

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After the Murmur

Artists and hipsters can bring dormant neighborhoods to life, but do they invite gentrification and displacement?

By Tim Kingston
› news@sfbg.com

One could be forgiven for staring. Oakland's lower Telegraph Avenue on a wet, cold, windy Friday night is not a location renowned for its street parties, particularly those involving dozens of young, white hipsters happily mingling with an equal number of young African Americans, both watching an impromptu rap show.

But a street party is precisely what was happening outside the Rock Paper Scissors (RPS) Gallery, at Telegraph and 23rd Street, that night. Welcome to Art Murmur, Oakland's very own art walk on the first Friday of every month. What started in January as an eight-gallery venture has, in a mere four months, blossomed. A dozen Oakland galleries now participate, exhibiting everything from installations featuring massively oversized pill bottles and pillboxes to traditional oil portraitures and, in the case of the Boontling Gallery, unnerving little sculptures that co-owner Mike Simpson described as "whimsical takes on decapitation."

"We want to improve the art scene in the East Bay so that people will call Oakland an artistic force to be reckoned with," the lanky Simpson told the *Guardian*. "Oakland has a lot of potential, and I have a lot of pride in the city.... A lot of artists who show in San Francisco are from Oakland. Why not represent where they are from?"

But jump-starting an artist-driven revival of lower Telegraph also has its potential hazards, prime among them gentrification. As San Franciscans know all too well, such revitalization carries the danger that the community will be made safe for real estate agents, developers, and urban professionals who quickly eliminate less desirable residents, i.e., the folks who were there first and the new artists' community.

When asked about the issue, Sydney Silverstein of the RPS Collective knowingly said, "Oh, you mean artists laying the groundwork for gentrification?"

Setting the gentrification question aside for a moment, something new and very exciting is happening along Telegraph Avenue, come rain or shine.

"We want to get people to buy art that have never bought art before," nattily attired Art Murmur cofounder Theo Auer said as he sipped free wine. It is not just the young and trendy who show up — more than one gray-haired art afi-

Among those trying to revitalize Telegraph Avenue are (from left) Jen Loy of Mama Buzz Café, Emily Cohen of RPS Collective, Sydney Silverstein of RPS Collective, and Nicole Neditch of Mama Buzz Café. | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY NEIL MOTTERAM

cionado was spotted making purchases at Boontling.

How did it all start? According to Auer, the midwife was beer. "It was after a show, and we asked each other, 'Why doesn't Oakland have an art walk?' 'How hard can it be?'" The result was a meeting last year at which RPS, Mama Buzz Café, Ego Park, 21 Grand, 33 Grand, Auto Gallery, Boontling, and the Front Gallery all chipped in money for logistics, postcards, an www.oaklandartmurmur.com Web site, and a newspaper ad.

"It's a tight community," said Tracy Timmins, the pale-blue-eyed and enthusiastic co-owner of Auto Gallery. "We are all very supportive of each other." And that support also comes from her landlord, who is only too happy to have a group of impoverished students who want to improve the neighborhood with art.

This, of course, is what raises the specter of gentrification. History shows that the shock troops of gentrification — a Starbucks on every corner, a yuppie in every Beamer — are the artists, freaks, punks, and queers who move into marginal areas. They happily pay low rent and live in iffy areas so they can create alternative communities. But that success can sow the seeds of a community's destruction.

What makes the Art Murmurers different from alternative communities of the past is they

CONTINUES ON PAGE 13 »

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Art Murmur CONT.

are well aware of how they can be a mixed blessing for neighborhoods. The night before the April Art Murmur, Murmurers held a five-hour meeting to revisit their founding principles, which include a commitment to a sustainable neighborhood as a way to prevent yuppification.

"We are trying not to alienate the current residents," Silverstein said, while noting the harsh reality of gentrification. "If this neighborhood goes to hell and becomes another Emeryville, I don't think you can do anything about it."

Silverstein said RPS is proactively linking to, and becoming part of, the community by offering sewing classes, art classes, a community space for events, and by forging a partnership with a local high school so the collective is not just an invasive bohemian Borg.

Silverstein told us she sees more new faces at classes offered by the gallery, a statement backed by the youths of color running in and out of the gallery space. Timmins too sees a role for the galleries to provide a place for art and education for local kids, because they "are not getting it in school."

Other galleries are less clear on the concept of community and gentrification. Esteban Sabar, owner of the upscale Esteban Sabar Gallery, moved from the Castro to affordable Oakland with a grant from the city of Oakland.

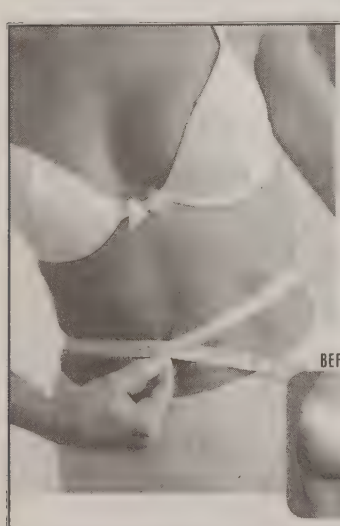
"This is affordable for me," Sabar said. "It will take awhile for gentrification to happen. By putting a gallery here I will help artists and the community. I will not let anyone kick me out." But he failed to address what might happen to the poorer local residents already living there if gentrification heats up.

Perhaps Jen Loy, co-owner of Mama Buzz Café, has the most realistic take on the issue. Lower Telegraph isn't like areas that used to have vibrant communities until they were decimated by dot-commers. She said there were few people living in the area.

"The more people, the better," Loy said. "People [who have been] living here 10 or 15 years are saying, 'Thank you, it is great to have you here.'" Loy says businesses like a local market, a pizzeria, and the bar Cabel's Reef all benefit from an influx of capital.

So the question is, as always, who benefits? If an area is revitalized, tax revenues go up, more people move in, and a more vibrant area ensues, but where do the artists and people who were there first go? Will they be able to create a community strong enough to resist displacement?

Or will they do what Tracy Timmins of Auto Gallery has already had to do: "As far as being pushed out, it happens," she says. "If that happens, I start again somewhere else." SFBG



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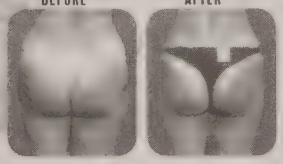

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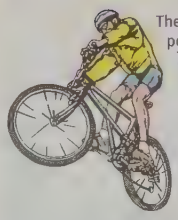

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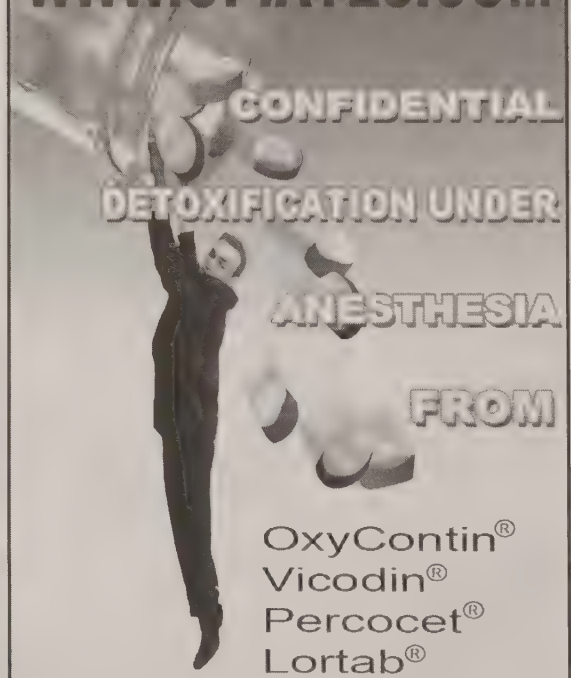

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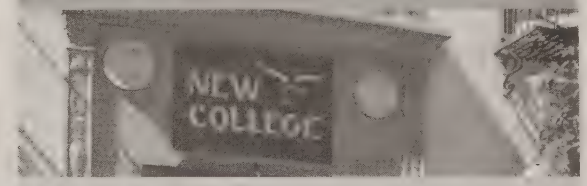

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Last call?

City commission pushes booze ban at North Beach festivals, raising concerns about an antifun crackdown at the start of the street fair season

By Amanda Witherell
› news@sfbg.com

Concerns about public drinking in North Beach and stifled public debate are conspiring to cripple a pair of popular outdoor festivals, possibly creating a troubling precedent for other events at the start of San Francisco's festival and street fair season.

"We'll have to cancel this year's festival," Robbie Kowal, who runs the North Beach Jazz Festival, said of the possibility of not getting his alcohol permit. "Seventy-five percent of our funding comes from the sale of alcohol."

The Recreation and Park Commission's Operations Committee is set to review the jazz festival's permit May 3, and if sentiments among the three mayor-appointed commissioners haven't changed, they might not allow Kowal and his partners, John Miles and Alistair Monroe, to set up bars and serve drinks to local jazz fans in Washington Square Park, as they've been doing without challenge for the past 12 years.

"We've never even had a hearing to get a permit before," Kowal said. "We've had no arrests and no [California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control] violations. We're being punished when we haven't done anything wrong. We're caught up in this whole North Beach Festival situation."

Kowal was referring to a dispute involving the neighborhood's other popular street fair, the North Beach Festival, a 52-year street fair that had its permission to sell alcohol in the park yanked this year. The festival is hosted by the North Beach Chamber of Commerce, whose director, Marsha Garland, is a political adversary of the area's supervisor, Board of Supervisors president Aaron Peskin.

The problem started when parks general manager Yomi Agunbiade determined that a long-standing ban on alcohol in city parks should also apply during festivals. Two out of three members of the Rec and Park Commission's Operations Committee agreed with that ruling during an April 5 meeting, and it became official policy.

Then, as the North Beach Festival permit went to the full commission for approval April 20, the words "permission to serve beer and wine" disappeared from the agenda item. Those words had appeared on an earlier version of the agenda, allowing the commission to grant what Garland had received with every permit for the last 20 years. The agenda change meant the commission couldn't even discuss the alcohol issue, let allow issue a permit that allowed it.

Commissioner Jim Lazarus questioned a representative of the City Attorney's Office about it and was told that the full commission couldn't hear the policy if the general manager and Operations Committee were in agreement.

"I was taken aback by the fact that the full request of the applicant to serve beer and wine was not on the calendar," Lazarus told us. "I've been on the commission for three and a half years, and I've never seen that happen before for this kind of issue."

This story is still unfolding, but observers are openly wondering whether this is an isolated case of political sabotage or whether this battle over beer could hurt the summer festival season.

> "The Rec and Park meeting was so disheartening, and if it's used as a precedent in any way, it will harm other events. If the oldest street fair in this city can be chipped away at like that, who's next?"
> Lindsey Jones, executive director of SF Pride, the largest LGBT festival in the country

The North Beach Jazz Festival's right to sell alcohol is in jeopardy after it was swept up in the controversy involving the largest North Beach Festival.
PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTH BEACH JAZZ FESTIVAL

Wine and beer sales have always played a critical role in the financial viability of many of the city's summer festivals. In a city that's never been afraid of a liberal pour, many are beginning to wonder if the good times are over, and if so, why?

"The Rec and Park meeting was so disheartening, and if it's used as a precedent in any way, it will harm other events. If the oldest street fair in this city can be chipped away at like that, who's next?" said Lindsey Jones, executive director of SF Pride, the largest LGBT festival in the country.

Some North Beach residents think this Rec and Park procedural shell game is punishment for Garland and her organization's opposition to Peskin, whom they blame for the change.

"Aaron Peskin would like to take Marsha Garland's livelihood away," said Richard Hanlin, a landlord and 30-year resident of North Beach who filed a complaint over the incident with the Ethics Commission.

"They want to railroad Marsha," said Lynn Jefferson, president of the civic group North Beach Neighbors. "They want to see her out of business. If she doesn't have those alcohol sales, she'll personally go bankrupt."

At the heart of the Garland-Peskin beef is a 2003 battle over a lot at 701 Lombard St. known as "the Triangle," which the owner wanted to develop but which the Telegraph Hill Dwellers wanted for a park after they found a deed restriction indicating it should be considered for open space. Peskin agreed with the group he once led and had the city seize the land by eminent domain, drawing the wrath of Garland and others who saw it as an abuse of government power.

Peskin told the *Guardian* that it's true he doesn't care for Garland, but that he did nothing improper to influence the commission's decision or agenda. However, he added that he's made no secret of his opposition to fencing off much of the park to create a beer garden and that he's made that point to Rec and Park every year since the festival's beer garden started taking over the park in 2003.

"Just let the people use Washington Square Park. It's the commons of North Beach," Peskin said. "The park should be open to people of all ages 365 days a year. That's just how I feel."

Yet Peskin said that neither the North Beach Jazz Festival, which doesn't segregate people by age, nor festivals that use less neighborhood-centered parks, like the Civic Center and Golden Gate Park, should be held to the same standard. In fact, he plans to speak out in favor of the jazz festival's right to sell alcohol during the May 3 meeting.

Access became the buzzword this year, in response to last year's decision by the San Francisco Police Department to gate two-thirds of the park off as a beer garden, effectively prohibiting many underage festivalgoers from actually entering a large part of the park. The section near the playground remained ungated, but many families were disillusioned by the penning of the party.

Enter the North Beach Merchants Association, a two-year-old rival of the Chamber of Commerce with stated concerns about booze. President Anthony Gantner learned that the park code banned alcohol from being served in any of the parks listed in Section 4.10, which includes Washington Square as well as nearly every other greenway in the city, unless by permission of the Recreation and Park Commission, which should only be granted as long as it "does not interfere with the public's use and enjoyment of the park."

Gantner and Peskin both argue that the beer garden does interfere with the right of those under 21 to use the park. "The Chamber is basically doing a fair, and that's it," Gantner said. "A lot of its members are bars, and they run a very large fair with beer gardens that result in incidents on the streets for merchants."

Though Garland contends that the festival is an economic stimulator, resulting in an 80 percent increase in sales for local businesses, Gantner claims that a number of businesses don't benefit from the increased foot traffic. He associates alcohol with the congruent crime issues that crop up when the clubs let out on Broadway, and thinks that selling beer and wine in the park only accelerates problems in the streets after the festival ends at 6 p.m.

Gantner has the ear of local police, who are understaffed by 20 percent and looking for any way to lower costs by deploying fewer cops. "It used to be we could police these events with full staff and overtime, but now we're trying to police them with less resources, and the events themselves are growing," Central Station Capt. James Dudley said.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 21››

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The veto question

Supervisors approve Saturday park closure, but will Newsom kill yet another measure prized by progressives?

By Steven T. Jones
› steve@sfbg.com

There are bigger issues facing San Francisco than whether to close off part of Golden Gate Park to cars on Saturdays. But as political dilemmas go, Mayor Gavin Newsom's impending choice of whether to sign or veto the Healthy Saturdays initiative presents him with a difficult call on a matter of great symbolic importance.

Newsom hasn't taken a position yet, and City Hall sources say he's actively trying to find a compromise position — something that will most likely involve strict and quantifiable monitoring standards during the six-month study period, or perhaps a request that the closure be moved to the west side of the park, which supporters of the measure have resisted.

If possible, Newsom would like to avoid vetoing a measure beloved by environmentalists, bicyclists, and recreational park users. Newsom's only other four vetoes have also shot down legislation prized by progressives: three rejected measures aimed at helping renters and preserving apartments, and one killed an ordinance limiting how much parking can be built along with downtown housing units.

But the clock is running on a JFK Drive closure slated to begin May 25, and Newsom is unlikely to please everyone, given the polarization and strong visceral reactions to the issue. The debate has so far played out as a class conflict, albeit one that has both sides flinging the epithet of "elitism" at each other.

The opposition campaign waged by representatives of the park's cultural institutions (including many prominent and wealthy political donors) and some park neighbors say closure supporters are trying to shut others out from the park, hurt the museums, and deny the will of voters. Supporters say this about making a portion of the city's premier park safe and inviting on weekends, rather than allowing it to be used as a busy thoroughfare and parking lot.

The rhetoric on both sides has often been heated, but supporters have for the most part stuck to the facts, while the opposition campaign has been marred by misrepresentations (see "Dede Wilsey's Whoppers," 4/19/06).

Some of the inaccurate statements — most notably that voters have repeatedly rejected closure — have taken on the air of truth as they were repeated by mayoral staffers, Sups. Fiona Ma and Bevan Dufty, and in two overheated columns by the *San Francisco Examiner*'s Ken Garcia that were riddled with inaccuracies and unsupported statements. (Garcia did not answer an e-mail from the *Guardian* seeking comment on his distortions.)

During the Board of Supervisors' April 25 hearing on the matter, the main question was whether a measure that already had six cosponsors would garner the eight votes that would be needed to override a mayoral veto.

"On two different occasions, voters rejected Saturday closure," was how Supervisor Ma explained her opposition, reading from a prepared statement. Supervisor Dufty, who voted no, also said he was swayed by the election argument: "This has come before the voters, and that's what I'd like to see happen [again]."

Actually, the question was put before voters just once, in November 2000. Just over 45 percent of voters wanted immediate Saturday closure (Measure F), while about 37 percent of voters approved of a rival measure sponsored by museum patrons (Measure G) that would have post-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 23 ››

Cheryl Chang takes off on her tricycle as her parents trail behind. The street closures in Golden Gate Park — now on Sundays and proposed for Saturdays as well — draw a wide variety of San Franciscans. | GUARDIAN PHOTO BY JENNIFER WHITNEY

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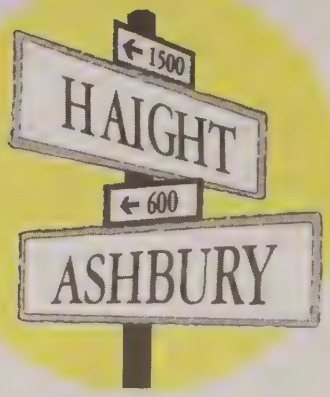

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Last call CONT.>>

He's also concerned about the party after the party. The police average five alcohol-related arrests on a typical Friday night in North Beach, most after the bars close. But those numbers don't change much during festival weekend, leading many to question the logic behind banning sales of alcohol in the park. Besides, if sales were banned, many festivalgoers would simply sneak it in. Even one police officer, who didn't want to be named, told us, "If I went to sit in that park to listen to music and couldn't buy beer, I'd probably try pretty hard to sneak some in."

At the April 20 Rec and Park meeting, Garland presented alternative solutions and site plans for selling beer and wine, which represents $66,000 worth of income the festival can't afford to lose. Beyond her openness to negotiations, Rec and Park heard overwhelming support for the festival in the form of petitions and comments from 30 neighbors and business owners who spoke during the general public comment portion of the meeting.

Father John Malloy of the Saints Peter and Paul Church, which is adjacent to the park, spoke in support of Garland's request. "I think I have the most weddings and the most funerals in the city," he said. "I'm praying that we don't have a funeral for the North Beach Festival. If anyone should be against alcohol, it should be the priest of a church."

So who are the teetotalers? Testimony included 10 complaints from members of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers, Friends of Washington Square, and the North Beach Merchants Association, as well as Gantner and neighborhood activist Mark Bruno, who came down from Peskin's office, where he was watching the hearing, to testify.

Commissioner Megan Levitan said, "If anyone knows me, they know I like my wine," before going on to explain that she was born in North Beach and even used to serve beer at O'Reilly's Beer and Oyster Festival. However, she said, she's a mother now, and parks are important to her.

"It does change a park when alcohol is there," she said. "I do not believe we should serve alcohol in the park."

Will that still be her stance May 3 when the North Beach Jazz Festival requests its permit? The jazz fest has never had beer gardens, and the organizers don't want them. Instead, they set up minibars throughout the park, which remains ungated, allowing complete access for all ages.

Although there is hired security and local police on hand, by and large people are responsible for themselves. The organizers say it's just like going to a restaurant for a meal and a drink, except in this case it's outside, with a stage and free live music.

Though Kowal remains optimistic, he's rallying as much support as possible, even turning the May 3 meeting into an event itself on his Web site (www.sunsettickets.com). His partners, Monroe and Miles, were concerned enough to swing by City Hall to see Peskin, who agreed to testify and help the Jazz Festival retain the right to sell booze.

"The first person to write a check to start this festival was Mayor Willie Brown," Kowal said. "Peskin has always been a big supporter of the festival, which is why we think it will all work out."

The festival is a labor of love for the three organizers, who barely break even to put the event on; after expenses are covered, any additional profit from the sale of alcohol is donated to Conservation Value, a nonprofit organization that aids consumers in making smart purchases.

"We were the first fair to use Washington Square Park," Monroe, the founding father of the jazz festival, said. "We're standing up for the right to access the park. It's not about 'he said, she said' or who did what to whom. It's about hearing free live music."

So now comes the moment when we find out whether this is about alcohol, parks, or simply politics, and whether future street fairs could feel the pinch of renewed temperance. If the jazz festival gets to sell booze, Garland's supporters argue, that will represent a bias against the North Beach Festival.

The commission will hear Garland's appeal at the end of May, just two weeks before the festival begins. With contracts already signed and schedules set, the stakes are high. Owing to lack of funds, Garland has already canceled the poetry, street chalk art, and family circus components of the fair. She did receive an e-mail from Levitan promising a personal donation to put toward the street chalk art competition. Even so, she's preparing for a funeral.

And if alcohol is prohibited at the jazz festival, it could send out a ripple of concern among street fair promoters and lovers around the city. To be a part of the decision, stop by the meeting and have a say. SFBG

PS *This weekend's How Weird Street Faire, on May 7, centered at Howard and 12th Streets, will have beer gardens in addition to seven stages of music and performances. But organizers warn that it could be the last festival because the SFPD is now demanding $14,000, a 275 percent increase from the police fees organizers paid last year.*

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Veto question CONT.

poned closure until after the garage was completed.

Several supervisors assailed the election argument that Garcia had circulated so vociferously, including one Healthy Saturdays opponent, Sup. Sean Elsbernd, who said neither the voter argument nor the argument that the de Young Museum would be hurt were valid.

Instead, Elsbernd said he was swayed by the concerns of park neighbors that the existing Sunday closure creates traffic problems in their neighborhoods. So he proposes that the Saturday closure happen on the west side of the park, rather than the east.

"Why can't we spread out these impacts?" Elsbernd said. "It's a simple compromise that will alleviate a lot of concerns."

Supporters of the closure have resisted that proposal, arguing that the eastern portion has most of the commercial vendors, the flattest and best-quality roads for kids just learning to ride bikes, the warmest weather, and is best served by the new 800-spot parking garage, which hasn't ever been full since it opened earlier this year.

And at this point, starting over with an alternative proposal would greatly delay the closure and ensure that the trial period doesn't generate a full summer's worth of data.

"The time is right. We have the garage open, and it's accessible," said Sup. Jake McGoldrick, who sponsored Healthy Saturdays after opposing it two years ago on the grounds that the garage wasn't yet open. He and other supporters later told us that they're open to considering any monitoring standards that Newsom may propose.

In the end, the measure was approved on a 7–4 vote, with Sup. Michela Alioto-Pier (who didn't speak about her reasons) joining Ma, Dufty, and Elsbernd in opposition.

"The table is set for the possibility that the mayor will veto this legislation," Sup. Gerardo Sandoval said at the hearing.

Afterward, Newsom spokesperson Peter Ragone said the mayor would make a decision on whether to veto in the next week or so. In the meantime, Ragone told reporters: "The mayor is going to continue to work with both sides on the issue to maintain a dialogue with the hope that we can reach a place where the right thing can be done." SFBG

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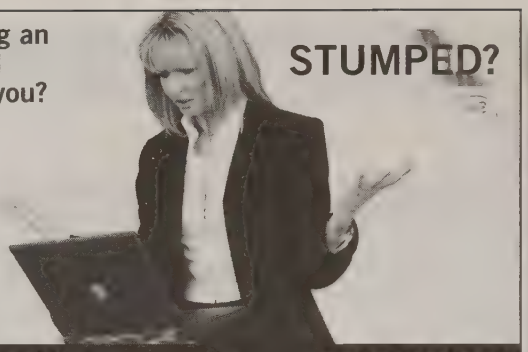

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Going low-tech

By Annalee Newitz
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TECHSPLOITATION I had the urge to be low-tech, so I spent a day walking across Manhattan. If you believe that culture is the new nature, my trek was roughly equivalent to an amble through the forest. I bought a bagel and lox at Zabar's, stuck my earbuds in on the corner of Broadway and West 80th Street, and headed south. Surely a Neanderthal could have had this same experience munching on meat and humming to herself as she wandered through Europe 42,000 years ago.

The Upper West Side — bounded by Central Park on one side and Riverside Park on the other — is actually full of old-school traditional nature. There are trees and slightly stinky bodies of water and birds. I know there's supposed to be some dramatic cultural difference between the Upper West Side and the Upper East Side, but I think my relentlessly Californian senses prevent me from discerning what it is. Both sides of the park are full of well-maintained residences, doctors' offices, corner stores built in the 1950s, and nannies ambling with baby strollers.

Exiting the park's south side is pretty much like walking into a really dirty waterfall next to sharp rocks. In fact, scratch that — traditional nature has no metaphors adequate to describe the sheer human hell of this place. Its dense cultural outcroppings and vortices stretch at least to 40th Street below Times Square and create the sensation of being in a crowd that's just on the verge of rioting in response to a piece of entertainment. This is very different from being in a crowd whose protoviolence is prompted by a desire for food or political freedom.

At the heart of Times Square I made a left and detoured briefly into the Condé Nast building to visit one of my editors. Four Times Square is one of the only high-rise office buildings in Manhattan constructed from eco-friendly materials. Supposedly the windows are specially made to maintain a moderate temperature, and air ducts keep fresh air circulating through the place. I couldn't really tell whether the building felt any "healthier" than, say, one of the scary buildings near Penn Plaza where I once interviewed a bunch of guys in suits. But it was amusing to try to identify which people in the elevator worked for *Vogue* and which worked for the *New Yorker*. After eating a genetically engineered banana with my editor among the translucent plastic structures that bloom like gigantic flowers all over the Condé Nast lunchroom, I returned to Broadway.

I slowed down when I hit 30th Street, moving through each neighborhood and watching the population change gradually the way I would watch a beach becoming forest if I were hiking on the California coast. The closer you get to Union Square Park near 12th Street, the more you start seeing young hipsters and frenetic middle-class people with bags of groceries. Continuing south, I skirted the edge of Greenwich Village and scooted past New York University, where everybody has floppy hair and Converse sneakers and jeans with stitching on the pockets.

Everyone got older and richer briefly in SoHo, but that group dissipated quickly around Canal Street. On Canal it was impossible for me not to examine at least four or five unlicensed pieces of trademarked and copyrighted media. People stuck handfuls of pirated DVDs under my nose; street vendors sold knockoff Hello Kitty and Gucci. If only this crowd could slake the thirst of those protorioters in Times Square, I don't think we'd have any violence.

The buildings got taller and the air between them colder as I approached the downtown financial district. People in suits with whimsical ties almost distracted me from my favorite part of Broadway downtown: the enormous brass bull statue near Wall Street that celebrates the crude joys of financial power. I never get tired of looking at its huge balls, which hang in remarkably realistic detail between its raised tail and abstract cock. Capitalists have never been a shy bunch, nor do they have any difficulty finding metaphors from nature to explain their peculiar form of culture.

And then, at last, I was at the Staten Island ferry, which brought me to the one place where Manhattanites fear to tread. SFBG

Annalee Newitz is a surly media nerd who isn't afraid of Staten Island.

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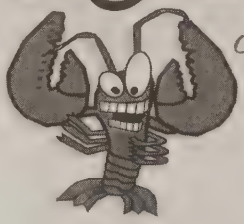

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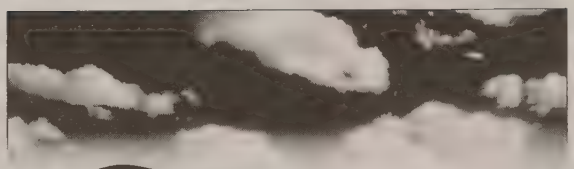

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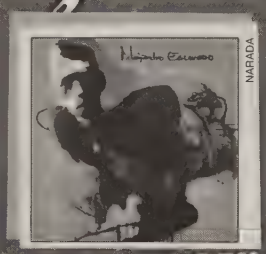
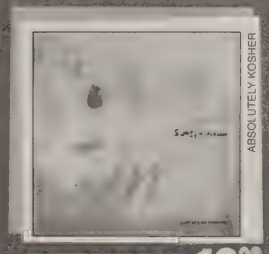


ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO 14.98 CD
The Boxing Mirror
Escovedo's music can range from full force rock 'n roll to the subtle delicacy heard from a string quartet. *The Boxing Mirror* finds Escovedo at his finest yet, exceeding his already remarkable musical achievements.

CIBELLE 13.98 CD
Shine of Dried Electric Leaves
The second CD by this Brazilian born artist includes her rendition of Tom Waits' "Green Grass", "Imagine the Girl From Ipanema in Terry Gilliam's futuristic Brazil." — *Rolling Stone*



SUNSET RUBDOWN 12.99 CD
Shut Up I Am Dreaming
On their new album, *Shut Up I Am Dreaming*, Sunset Rubdown has evolved into a full-fledged band effort, abandoning the idiosyncrasies of lo-fi solo work yet still eschewing the allure of a polished, glossy production.

THE COURT & SPARK 12.98 CD
Hearts
Live at Amoeba, SF on Sunday, May 7th at 2pm!
The Court & Spark mold a dreamy California sound with a rustic western vibe. Also catch their full set the following weekend at the GAMH on Friday, May 12th.

GOMEZ 12.98 CD
How We Operate
co-founded by Dave Matthews, it's another sunny effort by the folk/pop outfit, packed with Sixties-style harmonies & produced by Gil Norton!

CHRISTIAN MCBRIDE 14.98 CD
Live at Tonic
Christian McBride has arguably become the most acclaimed acoustic and electric bassist to emerge from the jazz world in the 1990's. *Live at Tonic* features Ron Blake, Charlie Hunter, Rahsaan Peterson and more.

BOBBY PREVITE 13.98 CD
The Coalition of the Willing
The Coalition of the Willing is an exciting powerhouse pulling together musicians from different worlds to play Previte's twisting, hard hitting tunes. "A serious composer with the heart of a roadhouse rocker." — *The Village Voice*

JON AUER 12.98 CD
Songs From the Year of Our Demise
The heartfelt and deeply personal debut full-length CD from the singer/songwriter/guitarist of The Posies and Big Star. With few notable exceptions, every bit of this masterpiece was written, recorded and performed by Jon.

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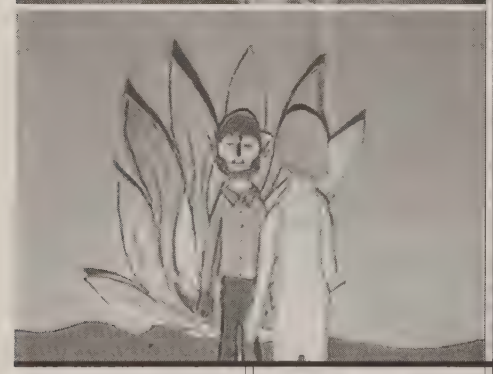
GUARDIAN

THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN **PICKS**



MAY 3-9, 2006

THE AMATEURISTS

By Johnny Ray Huston
› johnny@sfbg.com

Last year's *Guardian* Goldie Awards celebration brought together two winners in the film category, Melinda Stone and Edinburgh Castle Film Night. For Stone, the Castle crew exemplify the type of do-it-yourself movie club she's long admired. Now, with "For the Love of It: Sixth Annual Festival of Amateur Filmmaking," Stone unites ECFN and older cinema clubs. This program promises to include some impressive and painstaking movies by everyone from cult figure Sid Laverents to ECFN's David Enos, who puts the laconic in animation.

Sun/7, 3 p.m.
Pacific Film Archive Theater
2575 Bancroft Way, Berk.
$4–$8
(510) 642-5249
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu

Look for these *Guardian* Picks arrows throughout the A&E section for other shows, films, events, exhibits, restaurants, and performances we recommend.

WEDNESDAY
MAY 3

MUSIC

Mylo
Mylo, a.k.a. Myles MacInnes, hails from Scotland's Isle of Skye, where the closest things to hipsters are the shaggy bangs and apathetic attitudes sported by the region's highland cows. The clubs of Scotland and the rest of the UK were shocked-and-awed last year when Mylo's *Destroy Rock and Roll* (Breastfed) hit dance floors and tracks like "Drop the Pressure" and "in Your Arms" became instant club and radio hits. Lucky for us shake-yer-ass types in America, *Destroy Rock and Roll* finally landed on US shores earlier this year and is perhaps one of the catchiest, most accessible, and cohesive straight-up dance albums in recent times. Mylo is mixing and mashing up his own stuff these days, and you just might kick yourself if you miss it.
(Jenny Miyasaki)

9 p.m.
BOCA
414 Jessie, SF
$12
(415) 756-8890
www.sfboca.com

THURSDAY
MAY 4

MUSIC

Gutbucket
I recently listened to Gutbucket for the first time, and I think I'm in music-geek love. First off, the Brooklyn, NY–based quartet play wild yet structured anthems that jump between Charles Mingus's heavy-brass jazz, Queens of the Stone Age's stoner-rock riffs, Dead Kennedys' rough military drumbeats, and Stan Getz's tasty bossa nova. Make sense? Of course not, which is what makes them so enticing. Second, the bright, smiley faces all over their MySpace page and album materials ironically shrug off the pressure to look all hot and uninterested like everyone else in the world. Last, not only is one of their tracks named "Dry Humping the American Dream" (after their 2002 album of the same name), which would be awesome enough in itself, but the song highlights a killer sax solo that climaxes in plain old screaming. Jazz and punk sittin' in a tree, K-I-S-S-I-N-G! Go hear the musical make-out session tonight.
(Eliana Fiore)

With Carneyball Johnson and Geoff Berner
10 p.m.
Hemlock Tavern
1131 Polk, SF
$7
(415) 923-0923
www.hemlocktavern.com
www.gutweb.com

MUSIC

Herms
It's difficult to pigeonhole the Herms, and I have a feeling they like it that way. Listening to their new release, *Record Machine* (Jackpine Social Club), is like watching a drop of water on a hot skillet: It sizzles, spits, boils, and burns. The Herms' music is fast and schizophrenic, changing tempo within and between tracks at lightning speed. It's never the same thing twice. It's rock, post-punk, garage, dance, and electronic all wrapped up in tiny packages of fun, danceable songs that will keep you guessing and undoubtedly keep you moving.
(Miyasaki)

With Loquat, the Husbands, and DJ Elise
8 p.m.
Great American Music Hall
859 O'Farrell, SF
$8
(415) 885-0750
www.gamh.com

FRIDAY
MAY 5

PANEL AND PERFORMANCE

"A Celebration of the Beckett Centenary"
Here's a power hour for those itching to celebrate the great Irish playwright, poet, novelist, and birthday boy Samuel Beckett with more than a raised

pint or three. And it's free! On the occasion of Beckett's 100th, American Conservatory Theater first presents a panel discussion featuring noted Beckett scholar Marjorie Perloff and celebrated Irish author-playwright Colm Toibin, in a conversation moderated by ACT artistic director (and Perloff's daughter) Carey Perloff. Then, a cast of distinguished local actors stage select scenes from Beckett's oeuvre. Those suitably inspired can take home the four-volume Grove Centenary Edition of Beckett's works (not free, but nifty) published by Grove-Atlantic Press, a cosponsor of the event. **(Robert Avila)**

5:30 p.m.
Geary Theater
415 Geary, SF
Free
(415) 749-2228
www.act-sf.org

FILM

Workingman's Death
By most accounts, *Megacities* director Michael Glawogger's new film creates stunning imagery through extensive looks at some grueling examples of "dirty work." Glawogger's movie shifts from illegal coal mining in the Ukraine to sulfur hauling in East Java, going on to a slaughterhouse in Nigeria, a scrap yard in Pakistan, and a steel plant in China. One goal: bringing visibility to labor that usually goes unexamined and that may be disappearing. *Workingman's Death*'s considerable acclaim includes at least one critic's prize, but the movie also has its detractors, who argue that it is exploitative. Judge for yourself as it gets a deserved theatrical run at the Roxie this week (see review in film listings). **(Huston)**

Through May 13
7 and 9 p.m. (also Wed., Sat., and Sun., 2 and 4:30 p.m.)
Roxie Film Center
3117 16th St., SF
$4–$8
(415) 863-1087
www.roxie.com

Mylo hails from Scotland's Isle of Skye, where the closest things to hipsters are the shaggy bangs and apathetic attitudes sported by the region's highland cows.

SATURDAY
MAY 6

MUSIC

Islands
Way back there in 2003, before all the popular indie rockers came from the north country, the Unicorns burst out of Canada in a blinding hype-storm. Rambunctious, adorable, and given to odd song titles and lyrics, the band was a little too much for me (even if their album *Who Will Cut Our Hair When We're Gone?* was pretty irresistible). Then the group disbanded after a couple of tours, well before any "sophomore slump" talk had set in. Reunions are par for post-punk's course these days, but it's still surprising to see two-thirds of the band (Nick Diamonds and J'aime Tambeur) stirring up the buzz channels again as Islands. Even more surprising is word that the two have exchanged some of the Unicorns' youthful clowning for a more transparent songwriting sensibility. **(Max Goldberg)**

With Why? and Cadence Weapon
9 p.m.
Slim's
333 11th St., SF
$14
(415) 255-0333
www.slims-sf.com

SUNDAY
MAY 7

MUSIC

Blood on the Wall
NYC's Blood on the Wall spit out PBR-swilling spaz rock with enough pop hooks and jangled fuzz to make your teeth ache. Perhaps pining for the more guitar-driven anthems of the Alternative Nation–era '90s, the trio sound as if they've just climbed out of the muck of the Hudson River and begun jamming frantic yet friendly tunes that recall the grinding dynamism of Sonic Youth's *Daydream Nation* and the jittery geek rock of Pavement's *Slanted and Enchanted*. Singer Brad Shank's cutthroat howl is a perfect accent to sister Courtney's princesslike murmur, while drummer Miggy Littleton rounds out the threesome with brick-wall fieriness. BOTW's recent release, *Awesomer* (Social Registry), contains a collection of hand-clappers that'll either give you pleasant nightmares or have you bang-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 30 »

Clockwise from top left: Still from *Blackout*, by Cathy Begien of Edinburgh Castle Film Night; still from David Enos's *In Service to the Waxen Moon* (see Intro); still from Michael Glawogger's *Workingman's Death* (see Fri/5); the Herms (see Thurs/4); artwork by R. Crumb (see Tues/9); Islands (see Sat/6)
IN SERVICE TO THE WAXEN MOON PHOTO BY DAVID ENOS; WORKING MAN'S DEATH PHOTO BY M. EOBAL

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THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN **PICKS**

Gutbucket (see Thurs/4); Blood on the Wall (Sun/7)

GUTBUCKET PHOTO BY NATASCHA ROCKWIN

ing your head against the bar. Hopefully it'll be both. **(Chris Sabbath)**

With Psychic Ills and Death of a Party
9 p.m.
Bottom of the Hill
1233 17th St., SF
$8
(415) 626-4455
www.bottomofthehill.com

MONDAY
MAY 8

LECTURE

"Gonzo Prophets: Spirituality, Activism, and the Arts"
I haven't yet attended Burning Man, but others tell me it's a spiritually transforming experience to leave one's community to build a temporary new one, where art and technology figure prominently on a level that's difficult to attain in the ordinary world. At tonight's lecture at the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, Burning Man founder Larry Harvey, performance artist and sexologist Annie Sprinkle, UC Berkeley professor of engineering Ken Goldberg, and "queen of Judeo-kitsch" Rebbetzin Hadassah Gross explore what it means to be spiritual in contemporary society, discussing revelation and revolution in the sphere of the creative world. The program is presented by the Hub, which promotes intercultural dialogue and community building through performing arts events. **(Fiore)**

8 p.m.
Jewish Community Center of San Francisco
3200 California, SF
$10–$12
(415) 292-1200
maven.jccsf.org

TUESDAY
MAY 9

ART

Cartoon Tunes: Capturing Music in Comics
Music has played a vital role in movie TV adaptations of comic books: Flash Gordon saving Mongo from utter Queen carnage, a Boingo-less Danny Elfman setting the mood for Batman and Vicki Vale's love affair, Bill Bixby hulking out to "The Lonely Man." The 40-plus works that appear in the Cartoon Art Museum exhibit "Cartoon Tunes: Capturing Music in Comics" divulge how indie comic artists are influenced by musicians like Prince, Run-D.M.C., Philip Glass, and They Might Be Giants. Featured artists include R. Crumb, Gene Deitch, Justin Green, Ellen Forney, Dylan Horrocks, Megan Kelso, David Lasky, Tony Millionaire, R. Sikoryak, and Carol Tyler. **(Sabbath)**

Through Oct. 15
Reception May 23, 7–9 p.m.
Gallery hours Tues.–Sun., 11 a.m.–5 p.m.
Cartoon Art Museum
655 Mission, SF
$2–$6
(415) CAR-TOON
www.cartoonart.org

The *Guardian* listings deadline is two weeks prior to our Wednesday publication date. To submit an item for consideration, please include the title of the event, a brief description of the event, date and time, venue name, street address (listing cross streets only isn't sufficient), city, telephone number readers can call for more information, telephone number for media, and admission costs. Send information to Listings, the Guardian Building, 135 Mississippi St., SF, CA 94107; fax to (415) 487-2506; or e-mail (paste press release into e-mail body — no text attachments, please) to listings@sfbg.com. We cannot guarantee the return of photos, but enclosing an SASE helps. Digital photos may be submitted in jpeg format; the image must be at least 240 dpi and four inches by six inches in size. We regret we cannot accept listings over the phone.

LOCAL ARTIST:
Chris Corales

TITLE OF PIECE: *You Take Charge, I'll Put You at Ease*
THE STORY: "The manufactured needs that supply us with a variety of conveniences are quickly used up, discarded, and destroyed. What remain are the scraps of postconsumption. Through its passing — by transit and deposit, by accident — that which is created in mass and monotony takes on a new shape."
BACKGROUND: Corales is a self-taught artist who has been active in the Bay Area for the past decade.
WEB SITE: www.gregorylindgallery.com

King "B"

ICON John Saxon is many things to many people: 1950s teen idol (during his Universal contract player days he won a 1958 Golden Globe for "Most Promising Newcomer"); ubiquitous TV guest star (scratching the surface, the list includes *Dynasty, Melrose Place, The A-Team, Fantasy Island, Wonder Woman,* and *Gunsmoke*); and, most prominently, B-movie superstar. Throughout his still-active career, Saxon (real name: Carmine Orrico) has proved a charismatic presence no matter the setting. Program your own Saxon invasion with just a few of his best (and most widely available) performances.

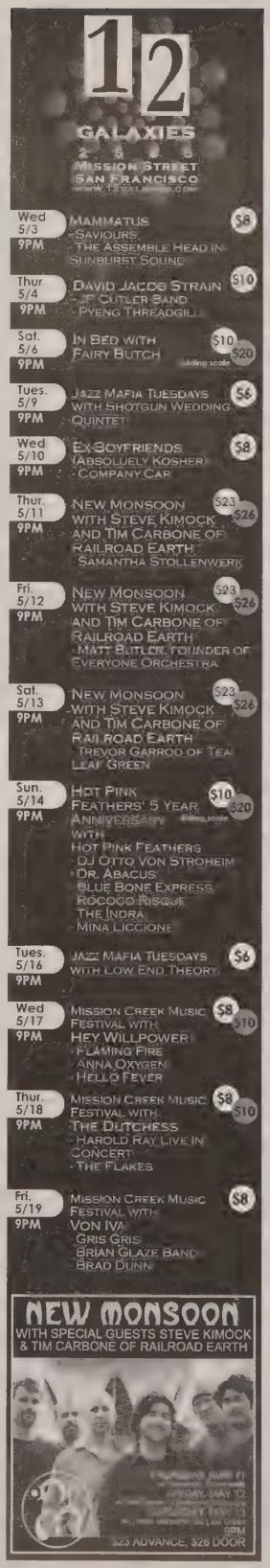
• *Enter the Dragon* (1973): Saxon showcases his black belt in this Bruce Lee classic.
• *A Nightmare on Elm Street* (1984) and *A Nightmare on Elm Street III: Dream Warriors* (1987): Lt. Thompson doesn't believe his daughter's crazy Freddy Krueger dreams are real . . . *until it's too late.*
• *Black Christmas* (1974): Lt. Fuller doesn't believe the crazy phone calls that are freaking out the sorority house are cause for concern . . . *until it's too late.*
• *Tenebre* (1982): Saxon's supporting role in this Dario Argento *giallo* features a memorable hat dance and plenty of vigorous bloodshed.
• *The Evil Eye* (1963): Two decades earlier, Saxon acted in this serial killa thrilla for Italian horror king Mario Bava.
• *Cannibal Apocalypse* (1980): Another Italian horror entry, but this one's infinitely trashier. Saxon stars as a Vietnam vet who discovers several of his men have returned from the war with, uh, peculiar eating habits.
• *The Cynic, the Rat, and the Fist* (1977): Saxon was often the only American cast member in his films, including this criminally hard-to-find cops 'n' robbers tale from ambassador of ultraviolence Umberto Lenzi, best known for 1981's *Cannibal Ferox,* a.k.a. *Make Them Die Slowly.* **(Cheryl Eddy)**

Bronson's Loose!
The Making of the* Death Wish *Films
By Paul Talbot
(iUniverse)

BOOK REVIEW This slim yet essential tome is jammed with information about the greatest quintology in cinema history, inspired by Brian Garfield's 1972 novel about vigilante justice. Interviews with director Michael Winner *(Death Wish I* through *III)* and others fill in juicy details, including the casting of thugs (among them Jeff Goldblum, Laurence Fishburne, and Alex Winter, plus my personal favorite, Kirk Taylor as *Death Wish III*'s "The Giggler") and the all-important hero ("The *Death Wish* vigilante role was called 'uncastable,' but Winner solved the problem by casting the world's most popular movie star"). Talbot — clearly a fan himself — also covers the series' frequent screenplay revisions, as well as audience and critical reactions to the brutally violent films. Plus, there's plenty on the late, fiercely private Bronson — who's unfortunately not directly interviewed here, though copious anecdotes offer fascinating insights. **(Eddy)**

THE MIX

(1) Werner Herzog worship (seriously, can he adopt us?)
(2) Post-Deerhoof scene-making, Castro Theatre
(3) Sudsing it up at the International Beer Festival
(4) Eating strawberries with *Survivor*'s Aras Baskauskas
(5) The singular glory of *Bride of Frank*



music

You can run, Ewan McGregor and Scarlett Johansson (pictured here, left, in last year's blow-'em-up clones-and-cleavage epic *The Island*), but you can't hide from your own contributions to the corniest CD of the week. Instead, *Guardian* art director Mirissa Neff had the right idea and raced to Coachella this weekend. Jose Luis Pardo of Los Amigos Invisibles (second from left) heated up the already boiling midday crowd on Sunday. A groovy '70s-themed Porta Potti art installation (second from right) set the mood — do your business elsewhere. Amadou and Mariam (right) basked in roars of approval.

THE ISLAND PHOTO BY DOUG HYUN, GUARDIAN PHOTOS OF COACHELLA BY MIRISSA NEFF

Worst album of the week

By Kimberly Chun
› kimberly@sfbg.com

"A strange new sound that makes boys explore."
— *Will and Grace*'s Eric McCormack singing Elton John and Bernie Taupin's "The Greatest Discovery"

SONIC REDUCER Not one of El's greatest moments of songcraft. A lot of strange, new sounds regularly leak through the CD cat door — just how many albums have the C*nts made? We get more than our share of musically ho-hum benefit recordings, amateurish anti-Bush anthems, and those almost quaintly, obliviously sexist *Ultra* dance comps. But the fundraising comp the aforementioned track was drawn from, *Unexpected Dreams: Songs from the Stars* (Rhino), is oddly, exquisitely . . . painful. This showcase of film, TV, and theater actors is almost as cringe-worthy as contemplating that Tom Cruise DJ set rumor floating round Coachella last weekend.

I suspect *Unexpected Dreams*' cause is a decent one: Music Matters, a Los Angeles Philharmonic music outreach program for school kids. But I can't imagine inflicting this disc on the youngsters that producers Wayne Baruch, Charles F. Gayton, and "vocal coach to the stars" Eric Vetro supposedly intended it for, although Baruch thoughtfully adds in the liner notes that the creators considered including a sticker saying, "Warning: Parents with children may experience drowsiness; do not operate machinery. For those without children . . . this may cause children."

Yuck. Don't get me wrong — I can take the corn, cheese, anything you want to poke in your bowtie-and-top-hat aural burrito. But disregard the vanity backslapping commentary and try to suffer through the actual renditions themselves: They make Shatner's silly spoken-word symphonies look visionary; Lindsey Lohan's pop pachyderms, cerebral; J-Lo's albums, stone-genius.

Oh, the vanity, the vanity of actors who think they're singers. Faring best: Scarlett Johansson singing a smoky blues-jazz version of the Gershwins' "Summertime" (in the CD notes, Vetro claims "lightning struck the room" when Johansson lay into the helpless tune), her *Island* costar Ewan "O Obi-Wan" McGregor wrapping his *Moulin Rouge* round Sade's "The Sweetest Gift," and Teri "Close encounters with *Desperate Housewives* poltergeists" Hatcher's relatively unembellished rendition of Lennon and McCartney's "Goodnight." Hatcher and vocalists like John C. Reilly rate lower on the icko-meter simply by sounding like themselves rather than affected high-school glee club achievers — *Alias*'s Jennifer Garner, for instance, sounds like all the variety show choristers I've been happily *not* missing since those endless, mind-numbing days of school assemblies. In fact, you can imagine a lot of boys and girls discovering that the "strange new" sounds on this album make them want to trash all their parents' well-meaning children's albums and explore some quality Slayer recordings.

Taraji P. Henson (*Hustle and Flow*'s hook-warbling hooker) does *bring* some soul to her song — but it'll be hard to pimp tracks by the otherwise fine actor Jeremy Irons, who never should have been allowed to try his all-too-white gimp hand at Bob Dylan's "To Make You Feel My Love" from *Time out of Mind*. And there are the many others who look at their songs as a license to overemote, like the worst rank–amateur karaoke contestants, in love with the fact that they can even hit the notes. Onetime warrior princess Lucy Lawless bludgeons her quasi-Christian Vetro original. Nia *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* Vardalos unleashes the feta on an overwrought, taste-free stab at Lennon and McCartney's "Golden Slumbers," and *Hairspray*'s Marissa Jaret Winokur makes one gag with a cloying, faux-childlike Vetro number. "Who wouldn't want Hollywood's biggest stars to sing them to sleep?" the album's press release states. Yeah, I guess that would be all right — but if John Stamos is one of Wood's biggest stars, I think Tinseltown is in trouble. Hint: I could be convinced to donate to any cause Rhino chooses, if they just, please, stick to reissues. SFBG

WATCH IT THIS TIME

BARR
The budding art star was recently feted in *Artforum*. Modern Reveries and F-Hole also perform. Wed/3, Hemlock Tavern, 1131 Polk, SF. Call for time and price. (415) 923-0923

THE HERMS
What's this about the porn written by one of the he-men in the solid indie-rockin' Herms, here celebrating their CD release? Loquat and the Husbands also perform. Thurs/4, Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell, SF. Call for time and price. (415) 885-0750

RAINER MARIA
The Brooklyn indie-rock romanticists return. Thurs/4, 9 p.m., Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St., SF. $12. (415) 621-4455

16 BITCH PILEUP
All female, all noise, all hands on deck when the Bay Area band plays with LA's Crom and Goldie winners Total Shutdown. Fri/5, 8 p.m., 924 Gilman, Berk. $6. www.924gilman.org. 16 Bitch Pileup and Crom also play Sat/6, 5 p.m., Elbo Room, 647 Valencia, SF. $6. (415) 552-7788

BELLRAYS
Soulful vocals meet aggro rock. Play nice. Boyjazz and Turn Me on Deadman also perform. Fri/5, 10 p.m., Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St., SF. $10. (415) 621-4455. Also Sat/6, 2 p.m., Amoeba Music, 1855 Haight, SF. Free. (415) 831-1200

DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS
The Southerners set up camp with Son Volt. Fri/5–Sat/6, 9 p.m., Fillmore, 1805 Geary, SF. $28.50. (415) 421-TIXS or (415) 346-6000

DOUG GILLARD
The Guided by Voices guitarist took his time, getting last year's addictive solo release out in front of breathing humanoids. Richard Buckner also plays. Sat/6, 9 p.m., Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St., SF. $13–$15. (415) 621-4455

SECRET MACHINES
The buzz band was no secret at SXSW. Sat/6, 8:30 p.m., Independent, 628 Divisadero, SF. $20. (415) 771-1421

BLOOD ON THE WALL
Flannel, '80s art rock, and a certain groove. Physic Ills and the Death of a Party open. Mon/8, 9 p.m., Bottom of the Hill, 1233 17th St., SF. $8. (415) 621-4455

GOLDFRAPP
The English duo dig into T-Rex–drenched electro with *Supernature* (Mute). Mon/8, 8 p.m. Fillmore, 1805 Geary, SF. $22.50. (415) 421-TIXS or (415) 346-6000

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Bright knight of the analog soul

Going deeper with Tiny Telephone's John Vanderslice

By Duncan Scott Davidson
> a&eletters@sfbg.com

Songwriter, studio honcho, and analog guru John Vanderslice takes a tea break from all that sonic tapestry–making. | PHOTO BY PIPER FERGUSON

John Vanderslice goes straight for the guy with the bouzouki. He's taking me on a tour of his recording studio, analog haven Tiny Telephone, located in an industrial space at the base of Potrero Hill, directly across from a giant, rusted rocket engine belonging to Survival Research Laboratories.

He's about to pick the melon-shaped instrument up from its stand out of sheer exuberance, but he checks himself and asks its owner, "Do you mind?" It has four sets of strings, paired in octaves like a 12-string guitar, and some fancy inlay work. He gives it a tentative strum, trying to suss out the tuning, before gingerly replacing it. "Anything but an electric guitar excites me."

It's a strange statement coming from a guitar player. But Vanderslice isn't simply a guitar player — he's a complex commodity. He looks calm enough in his tattered, holey sweater and wide-wale corduroys. But it's like the surface tension on a water droplet. It can only briefly hold back an inexorable motion, and the seeming stillness on the outside belies the seething, wild Brownian motion beneath.

TAPESTRY OF THE UNKNOWN

Google "'John Vanderslice' + 'analog'" and you'll get around 100,000 hits. This shouldn't be shocking. For one, there are five "official" solo albums on Barsuk, as well as three with his previous band, mk Ultra; for another, there's his studio, boasting a 30-channel Neve mixing board that once belonged to the BBC, and dozens of vintage amps, preamps, and effects, some of them fairly wacky, like the huge anodized metal "plate in a box" reverb. One can comfortably call him an analog purist. He even calls himself that. Sometimes.

Like most purists, there's a persnicketiness to his passion. I'm reminded of the older guys at the BMX track who refuse to ride aluminum bikes: "Steel is real," they're always saying. For Vanderslice too, steel is real — as are the glass tubes and the magnetic tape that runs from reel to reel to capture it all. When it comes to his own records, he has "these militant rules about what we can and can't do as far as using effects. If we want an effect on an instrument, we have to record it that way. My thing is, if you want it to be some way, make it that way and commit to it. Don't be half-assed. If you want it to sound fucked-up or modulated or distorted or delayed, let's go for it. Record it that way, print it on tape, and then it's part of the tapestry. It's done."

"It is done" were that last words of Jesus Christ, and when Vanderslice is up in arms, hunched over his cup of tea, the ardent analog guru preaching the tube gospel, they're murmured with similar prophetic urgency. But that's just the molecular lockdown on the surface of the drop. Underneath: movement. His records — especially as they move away from being "guitar records" — are all about that tapestry. The song, lyrics, chorus, melody, and bridge — these are the structural elements that build the house. But you have to peek in the windows to see what's really going on: the art on the walls, that tapestry he's talking about and how intricately it's woven. "Exodus Damage" on his most recent album, last year's *Pixel Revolt,* has got mellotron "synthesizing" (sans computer), a choir, pipe organ, strings, and a flute. Instrumentally, the album's all over the place — it's like a warehouse with cello, Hammond B3, Wurlitzer, glockenspiel, vibraphone, steel drums, trumpet, moog, tape loops, and a "space station," among other things. There's a lot going on, on different levels, and you've got to do more than peek through the windows to really get *Pixel Revolt;* you've got to come inside and sit down.

Vanderslice constructs his music in that honest, brick-by-brick way of the analog stickler, but it's not as if he just mics it up, tapes it down, and it's ready to go. He manipulates his songs using techniques that might be more readily associated with the digital side of things. He builds them, then deconstructs them and builds something else. I'm reminded of Bob Geldof in *The Wall,* where he smashes everything in the hotel room and builds something that, at first glance, is obtuse and impenetrable but is clearly imbued with deeper meaning for having been recontextualized. Vanderslice takes digital techniques and analog-izes them. He uses Tiny Telephone like a punch card machine, a steam-driven computer.

"I like using the analog instruments of the studio, meaning compressors and mic pres and effects as instruments," he explains. "When you start combining all these things — the keyboard into some mic pre you found in a pawn shop into some weird compressor into delay — you get some unknowable results. Chasing down that kind of shit is fascinating for me."

COVERT OPS

"I'd harbored hope that the intelligence that once inhabited novels or films would ingest rock," Lou Reed once said. "I was, perhaps, wrong." Like most Lou Reed quotes or songs or looks, he's both right and wrong. Most rock has ceased to even aspire to the literary. Traditional rock lyrics are the domain of the first-person diarist.

Vanderslice's songs, however, are sonic novellas, small, encapsulated narratives whose meaning sometimes bleeds into the silence between tracks to form the greater novel of the album. Not surprisingly for an artist with so much happening musically on that other level, stories of the covert permeate JV's records. *Mass Suicide Occult Figurines* (2000) takes us behind the scenes of a drug operation on "Speed Lab." *Life and Death of an American Fourtracker* (2002) follows the semi-institutionalized ruination of its lead character's life and love. Of late, 2004's *Cellar Door* features the shaky ruminations of a special ops type, musing on shady dealings from Columbia to Guantánamo: "The screams I've heard / It'd fuck up a weaker man / But I'm cold, I'm so untouchable."

The characters that inhabit Vanderslice's music are not the musician. But, then again, maybe they are. "'Speed Lab,'" he tells me, "is a metaphor for starting a band or starting a studio and having those things implode." *Pixel Revolt*'s "Dear Sarah Shu" reads like a Gabriel García Márquez magical-realist rendition of a spy novel, a world-weary resignation note from an outgoing CIA station chief to his replacement: "Your office will flood every night / It's water, don't try to fight it / Suspend all your files using / My system of hanging wires." On another level, it's a note written to himself at a moment when he felt like giving up on music entirely: "In the end, it is love / You'll have to learn to survive."

And in the end, nothing is what it seems. With that in mind, how apropos that JT LeRoy, San Francisco's own mythological literary amalgam, enigma, and trickster, would strike up an e-mail correspondence with Vanderslice. Long before author Stephen Beachy put the screws to LeRoy, JV had his doubts. "I grew up in Florida and Georgia," he says. "So I had a very thick Southern accent. JT LeRoy is supposedly from West Virginia — I didn't understand where this dialect was coming from." He parodies LeRoy's hodgepodge, quasi–Dirty South e-mail stylings: "Yo, y'all up in the place . . ." then breaks up laughing. "I wouldn't say that I thought it was fake, but there was a put-on aspect to it."

Why did LeRoy contact him to begin with? "The dialogue devolved into me helping JT LeRoy with either gift items for a fundraiser or contacts with my label — or to help him with shows," he recalls. Apparently Laura Albert, the woman widely believed to be the pen behind LeRoy's writing, is in a band, Thistle. "Lyrics by JT LeRoy is their big thing, if you go to their Web site," Vanderslice says. "The whole construct is to get their band some fuckin' love. It's so funny."

YOUR PERSONAL JAZZ AGE

Vanderslice is not feeling scammed by the duplicity of the whole thing. It is, after all, his "favorite story of the decade," and I assume he gave up no signed boxer shorts for a charity auction. More than that, I get the feeling that whatever one does artistically is OK with him, as long as one commits to it and, most important, does it artfully.

Sometimes one of Vanderslice's favorite bands will come into his studio and will end up making a "terrible" record. Conversely, there are times when, he explains, "I'm like, 'This band's not my thing.' They come in here and they make a

record that's mind-blowing. Art is a blank slate. You can't ever know where someone's going to come from or what they're capable of. You have to have ultimate faith in creative people."

As the soldiers in Vietnam used to say to echo an uncontested fact of reality: "There it is." When I was sitting across the table from Vanderslice at Tiny Telephone, and later at Martha and Bros. on 24th Street, we talked about a lot of things. Two guys, shuckin' and jivin', taking the piss and holding court on everything from politics to inflatable love dolls. Two guys who like to talk. JV has this way of saying, "Yeah, yeah, yeah," when you're making a point. He's not interrupting or trying to speed you up — he just agrees and wants you to know it.

But there was a pause after "You have to have ultimate faith in creative people." I damn sure paused in front of my Mac and let that line sink in while typing this interview up. That was some serious science, some Yoda shit: "Try? There is no try. There is only do or do not do."

It hit me. Not because it was some cool rock 'n' roll power statement, but because it was a vow I needed to renew within myself. Humility aside, it's not the talent or lack thereof that kicks me in the ass as a "creative person." It's the fear. It's the lack of belief, the idea that, well, Fitzgerald was Fitzgerald when he was in his 20s, listening to jazz and drinking champagne in Paris. By the time he was my age, he was a self-admittedly miserable drunk who'd sold his soul to Hollywood: "In the long dark night of the soul, it is always 3 o'clock in the morning."

But he didn't go down without a fight, and not without *Gatsby*. So when I'm feeling that 3 a.m. of the soul, I'm going to go back with a flashlight, and I'm searching for that ultimate faith. SFBG

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SCOTT WALKER
The Drift
(4AD)

"Morrissey, Morrissey, Morrissey." The chant that demands an encore at his shows now could double as an expression of slight exasperation, followed by the question, "Where are the tunes?" Don't stop me if I've asked this before — I did when 1995's turgid *Southpaw Grammar* (Reprise) was released, though Morrissey albums tend to bed me eventually.

Morrissey goes Italian here, rhyming Pasolini and Accattone, which is another way of saying he's coming out. If only the Visconti named Luchino he refers to in "You Have Killed Me" had produced this album, rather than the one named Tony, who doesn't quite live up to his rep. The Ennio Morricone collaboration, "Dear God Please Help Me," sounds like any fine Morrissey ballad, instead of the insane panorama it should have been. The vocalist has inferred that he toned down Morricone's arrangement: Does Morrissey not know he's as baroque as the legendary composer?

Scott Walker touched on Pasolini with his last album, 1995's *Tilt* (Fontana/Drag City). His new one, and second proper release in close to a quarter century (not counting his 1999 *Pola X* soundtrack), goes beyond even the furthest reaches — rock meets Alban Berg meets the scarily solitary sweetness of German lieder — of *Tilt*'s severe atonality. Walker kissed Jacques Brel good-bye many decades ago. These days he's crafting stark operas in which he plays many roles, all of them more gracefully than R. Kelly.

In the liner notes of *The Drift*, music journalist Ian Penman takes jabs at an unnamed Morrissey-esque "man-child" cashing in on faded glory. But Morrissey has a few decades to catch up with the radical 63-year-old, and lyrically he's taking baby steps toward Walker's ability to confront the likes — or hates — of a Slobodan Milosevic in song. Where are Walker's tunes? Long tossed away as archaic and immature escapism, replaced by the pretense of present-day classicism. The abundant horrors of planet Earth in 2006 are filtered through *The Drift*, and if the results are often bizarre — a Daffy Duck impression!?! — they're just as often awesome. **(Johnny Ray Huston)**

PAUL MOTIAN BAND
Garden of Eden
(ECM)

This record is about melody — about melody as a destination, not a departure point. Paul Motian is the progenitor and perhaps foremost practitioner of playing the drum set as a melodic instrument, so this focus should come as no surprise. Still, the unswerving intellectual and spiritual dedication to melody on *Garden of Eden* is remarkable. The whole ensemble of drums, bass, three guitars, and two saxophones is committed to this mission.

The album begins and ends with largely faithful interpretations of compositions by Charles Mingus, Thelonious Monk, and Charlie Parker. These are approached more as melodies to be pondered and enjoyed for their own inherent beauty than as mere jumping-off points for solos. The exception is Monk's "Evidence," in which the syncopated melody gives way to the album's only actual drum solo, itself more meditative than bombastic.

The band's own compositions — principally by Motian, with a few songs by other members — are based on elegiac, impressionistic melodies set against richly textured backdrops. The melodies are given ample time to be fully considered or felt, against backgrounds that are more painterly settings than rhythms or grooves. Here, the band largely functions collectively, following Motian's lead. There are some solos, but they're spare and consistent with the mood of both the specific song at hand and the record as a whole.

This is an album to be listened to repeatedly, to take your time with. The music is generous, thoughtful, and soulful. It does not jump out and grab you, but slowly draws you in if you listen closely. It's well worth the effort. **(Devin Hoff)**

SOUL POSITION
Things Go Better with RJ and Al
(Rhymesayers)

Hip-hop producer Ramble Jon Krohn, known to many by his alias RJD2, may have migrated from Columbus, Ohio, to the Big Apple a few years ago, but his musical soul remains grounded in vintage Midwestern R&B and funk. Rugged rust-belt sounds — from groups like the Ohio Players, Dayton Sidewinders, and the Detroit Emeralds, along with obscure rock and folk dusties — informed his acclaimed solo Definitive Jux albums, 2002's *Deadringer* and 2004's *Since We Last Spoke*. Krohn seemingly took a glance at DJ Shadow's aural blueprint, then built his own beat-soaked mansion.

Speaking of architectural drafts, Krohn's cohort, the MC Blueprint, from Columbus group Greenhouse Effect, joins RJ for a second go-round as Soul Position. Blueprint's verses combine the syllabic dexterity of the Roots' Black Thought and the sharp storytelling of Wu-Tang's Raekwon. The style is evident on "Hand Me Downs," which laments the plight of rappers *not* molded after 50 Cent, with stanzas like "To some of y'all if I don't talk about the gat enough or sell crack enough / I ain't black enough / But I'd rather be a pro at being myself than be an idiot trying to be someone else."

Krohn's compositions range from Meters-ish guitar-driven loops ("Keys") to rhythmic, UK grime–like compositions ("Things…"). Sadly, on jams like "I'm Free," Krohn's manic soul thunderstorms thoroughly drench 'Print's couplets like a rock band too loud for its vocalist. Still, with the underground awash in mediocre indie superproducer-MC collabos, Soul Position is a happy compromise of prosaic lyricism and grainy Polaroid beats, imbued with a Midwestern working-class sincerity. **(Tomas Palermo)**

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local grooves

VARIOUS ARTISTS Boomtown (True Panther)

Scenes sometimes require statements of purpose to structure themselves around, but at other times they happen so organically that no one bothers to call them scenes at all, except for those on the outside. This compilation documents a fecund period in a Potrero Hill practice space shared by a few bands that seem to overlap in membership and play shows together.

Of this crew, Two Gallants seem to have the most crossover reach beyond the Mission District. While TG's contributions may include the slickest musicality, their ragtag approach and recording quality speak to a unifying sensibility in this scene. There's bubblegum pop-rock from the rather defiantly named Shitstorm, all the sweeter when considered among the sounds of their peers. Their opening track, "Holy Eyes," with its chorus of girl chants and sweetly aggro doo-wop fuzz, is pretty winning, and they're rumored to have changed their name to the less crust-phonic 1918. Full Moon Partisans, who sing in Russian and employ accordions and washboard percussion, are fairly straightforward, even as they work a clamorous chaos into their music. Angular math rockers Hiker/Biker sound vaguely like a twangy Hella, whereas Trainwreck Riders crash more directly into the cow punk arena. **(George Chen)**

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David Peterson and José Mineros of Fag get kiki at Pride (left); the crowd at Fag's Pride dance stage (center); DJ Frankie Knuckles turns it out in Fag's booth (right).

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Our gang

By Marke B.
› superego@sfbg.com

SUPER EGO "Oooh, I do detect / I can't go on / Without you," the latest lesbionic Chaka Khannabe, Leela James, rasps in the spooky reedit of "My Joy" that's dominated dance floors worldwide for about five months now. The mix is by NYC's deep house genie Quentin Harris, whose last smash crack-up, of Jill Scott's "Not Like Crazy," whistled lonely through the graveyard on the grounds of soul's asylum. "My Joy (Quentin Harris Shelter vocal)" is a classic melancholic spine-tingler. A Hammond B3 swirls toward climax, the bass skips a heartbeat, strings of life collide, and the woeful diva's voice is drawn and quartered, pulled in four directions, wailing "My mind! My mind!" despite an uplift in the chorus: "No, no, no, ain't no way / You gon' take away / My joy, my peace, my strength." In the end, James dumps her psycho man and moves on — but we're all left shaken to the bone.

Whatever happened to house? It devolved into circuit, all shrieking modulations and lame-ass breaks, the pale lingua franca of gays worldwide. It rode the elevator down to easy listening lounge, the wallpaper tube-topped bimbos spilled appletinis on. It got all lush and gospel, overeagerly fronting its blues-black roots. It stripped off its base and went seriously loony, fattening up Fat Boy Slim's paycheck and Paul Van Dyke's portfolio.

Poor little house, kicked to the curb with its shoelace untied, crying foul in its white-label milk. What's an unabashed husehed freak who loves working it out gonna do?

Go to Fag Fridays at the Endup, for one. Despite all the lip service to a house revival and a titillating resurgence of underground queer clubs dedicated to old-school jacking, the national house scene's been whittled down to a mere trifecta of well-respected bastions — Shelter in NYC, Deep in LA, and our very own Fag, which gathers all the varied arms of house back into one long, sweaty embrace. I'm not saying Fag's the only happening house gig in town, far from it, but it's the only weekly joint in town where you're guaranteed to hear slices like "My Joy" — and not feel obliged to wonder if you look a mess while you lose your shit over it. No matter what you do, you will never, ever be the messiest-looking freak up in there.

Fag was started by grassroots impresarios David Peterson and Jose Mineros a decade ago, when *queer* was still a dirty word and sex columnist Dan Savage was getting hate mail from homosexuals because he allowed readers to address him as "Hey Faggot." The golden age of local fun houses Klubstitute and Product had just petered out, folks were still dying left and right of AIDS, and gay men were heckling me on the street because I sported — gasp! — *baggy pants and a wallet chain.* Homo-hop was unheard of, *gay youth* was a derogatory term, and Manhunt hadn't been invented. People who did drugs had to actually leave the house to get laid! For the group of streetwise queer kids of color who clustered around Peterson and Mineros and had roots in House Nation, Fag was heaven — a clubhouse, a get-down, and, for some of us, a home.

Now, 10 years later, Fag's still going strong, featuring not only some of the best known SF DJs as regulars (David Harness, Pete Avila, Neon Leon, Rolo) but pulling in the globally acclaimed as well (Frankie Knuckles, Tony Humphries, Angel Moraes, Honey Dijon). The upcoming anniversary celebration kicks off with singer Dajae, she of back-in-the-day "Brighter Days" and "U Got Me Up" fame. Sure, Fag's now become a kind of institution, associated by some with shirtless boys, GHB casualties, shit-faced queens, and on one occasion, raids for Versace's killer. But it's hung in there, proving that house isn't dead. It's alive. It's joyful. It's kicking.

It's also relevant. I went there last month to hear Quentin Harris himself on deck, and he did this thing all night where he kept a little fuzz box of white noise going on behind the mix, which — to my overanalytical mind, at least (metaphors! metaphors!) — was a perfect representation of the global mess outside we were all hopping around to escape. Groovy, cute, *and* smart? Hey, Quentin, wanna date? SFBG

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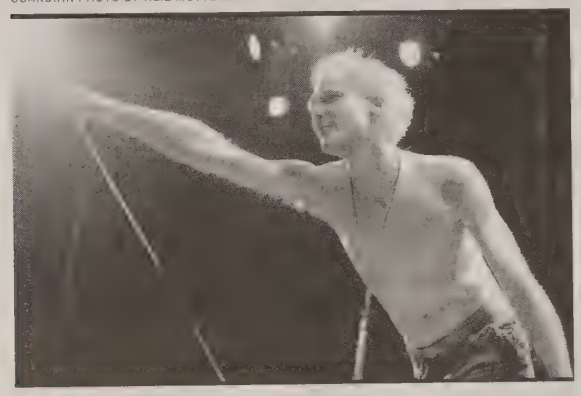
Bruce Loose dares to go bare during Flipper's set at the Fillmore.
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY NEIL MOTTERAM



"Fab Mab Reunion"

April 8, Fillmore

By Will York
› a&eletters@sfbg.com

LOCAL LIVE "Typical Flipper," Flipper frontperson Bruce Loose quipped at one point during the band's set at the recent "Fab Mab Reunion." Not to suggest that Flipper don't know what they're doing — they do. But dotting *is* never were top priorities for them. Their improbable, ragged, and yet ultimately triumphant return to the Fillmore April 8 was a case in point, featuring its share of false starts, wrong notes, and out-of-sync vocals, along with a bass amp on the verge of crapping out throughout their approximately 40-minute set. "Know your history," Loose added at another point in the show.

Speaking of history, fellow showgoers who had actually experienced the legendary Mabuhay Gardens back in its late-'70s/early-'80s heyday remarked that the most authentic part of the show was MC Dirk Dirksen. His rambling, semicoherent monologues, which included a roll call of the dead that made reference to deceased Flipper member "Will Shatner [*sic*]," drew groans and heckles, as well as a bona fide noogie from Loose at one point.

On the other side of the coin, in terms of historical accuracy, were the Avengers and the Jeff Penalty–fronted Dead Kennedys. The Avengers' set had a decidedly mall-punk feel to it, sounding more like third-generation MTV punks than a class of old-school '77 graduates. As for the controversial DKs, at least Penalty brought a touch of surreal ridiculousness as he bounded onstage, manically hopped around, and even went so far as to slyly beckon applause with a "come on, come on" hand gesture. One might have expected him to be dodging beer bottles instead.

But with all due respect to the Mutants — we walked in with just a couple of songs left in their set of solid-sounding, if somewhat quaint, set of Sex Pistols–ish punk — Flipper were the highlight of the evening. Just over a year ago, the remaining members from the band's classic early-'80s lineup — Loose, drummer Steve DePace, and guitarist Ted Falconi — were barely on speaking terms, so to see them onstage together and clearly enjoying themselves was great in itself; the fact that they sounded like themselves, not like a slick facsimile, was even better. Filling in for Shatter was unofficial fifth member and longtime utility player Steve DeMartis, who turned in an intense vocal performance on "Shine." Elsewhere, Loose — who dyed his hair bright blond for the occasion — handled the mic with his trademark sarcasm and lovable obnoxiousness, tossing off trademark lines like "Forget it, you wouldn't understand anyway."

They opened with unlikely sing-along "Ha Ha Ha," stumbled through the Shatter anthem "Life," and played zero songs from their Shatter-less 1993 Warner Bros. album, *American Grafishy*. The set closed with a barely recognizable rendition of "Flipper Blues" and a sped-up, runaway-train version of "Sex Bomb" with original session-player Ward Abronski of Polkacide on tenor sax.

Yes, there were rough edges, but as far as their sense of humor, focused sloppiness, and don't-give-a-damn attitude went, it was indeed typical Flipper. And that's a good thing. SFBG

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Music listings are compiled by Sarah Han. The music interns are Eliana Flore, Jenny Miyasaki, and Chris Sabbath. Since club life is unpredictable, it's a good idea to call ahead to confirm bookings and hours. Prices are listed when provided to us. See Picks, page 28, for information on how to submit an item to listings.

WEDNESDAY 3

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Absolon Johnny Foley's. 9pm.
BARR, Modern Reveries, f-Hole Hemlock Tavern. 9:30pm, $6.
Battleship, Atomic Bomb Audition El Rio. 9pm, $5.
Cat Power and the Memphis Rhythm Band Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon; 421-TIXS. 8pm, $26.50
Bart Davenport, Tim Bluhm, Rubies, Ted Edwards, Taurus, Paul Panamarenko, Bramble 'n' Briar, Mike Chase Rickshaw Stop. 7pm, $3
Dekoiz, Black Dream, DJ Ox Parkside. 9pm, $3.
Digable Planets Independent. 9pm, $30
Eleventeen, Kill Fast Casino, Normal Like You, Rescue Me Bottom of the Hill. 8:30pm, $8.
Felonious Element Lounge. 10pm, $5.
Gomorran Social Aid and Pleasure Club, Brass Monkey, Blue Roots Make-Out Room. 9pm, $7.
Mad Caddies, Love Equals Death, Dr. Octopus Slim's. 8pm, $15
Mammatus, Assemble, Saviours, Head in Sunburst Sound 12 Galaxies. 9pm, $8
Mellowdrone, Lola Ray Cafe du Nord. 9:30pm, $7.
Mylo Boca, 414 Jessie; 756-8890. 9pm, $12. See Picks, page 28.
Pants Pants Pants, Sergeant, Skypilots Elbo Room. 9pm, $5
Sleater Kinney Great American Music Hall. 9pm, $15 Sold out
Transport, Wearies, Animal Underground Hotel Utah Saloon. 9:15pm, $6
Woodleg Odds Biscuits and Blues. 9pm, $10

BAY AREA

Ben Adams Trio Uptown. 8:30pm, $5
Nicole and the Sisters in Soul Beckett's. 9:30pm.
Todd Rigione's ToneGrown Ivy Room. 9:30pm, $5

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Bossa Suave Lingba Lounge. 8:30-10:30pm.
Charles Unger Experience Les Joulins Jazz Bistro 8pm.
George Cotsirilos Enrico's. 7pm
Gaucho, Mitch Marcus Session Amnesia. 7:30pm, free.
Mike Greensill, Chuck Bennett Moose's. 7pm
Savanna Jazz Jam Savanna Jazz. 9pm, free
Benny Velarde and His SuperCombo Top of the Mark. 8:30pm.

BAY AREA

John Willliam Gordon Jupiter. 8pm, free.
Jon Jang Seven Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $10-18.
La Peña Latin Jazz Orchestra La Peña Cultural Center. 8pm, $7.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Erin Shrader, Richard Mandel, John Ward Wilde Oscar's, 1900 Folsom; 621-7145. 8pm, free.

BAY AREA

Universal Shattuck Downlow. 8pm, $5-10
Whiskey Brothers Albatross Pub. 9pm, free
Wild Catahoulas Ashkenaz. 8:30pm, $9.

DANCE CLUBS

1002 Nights Underground SF. 10pm-2am, $5. With Cheb I Sabbah.
Beauty Bar 10pm-2am, $3-5. Hip-hop, R&B, and soul.
Belly Dance Elements African American Art and Culture Complex, 762 Fulton; 424-4897. 7pm, $10. Belly dance lessons.
La Bodega Baobab. 10pm, $3. Reggaeton and Afro-Cuban with DJ Walt Digz and Rick.
Body Wet Wednesdays Luna Lounge, 1192 Folsom; www.lunaloungesf.org. 9:30pm. Hip-hop, R&B, and club classics with DJ Rick and DJ Switch.
Bondage A Go-Go Glas Kat. 9:30pm-2:30am, $5-7. Death rock, industrial, '70s and '80s dance music, interactive BDSM, and go-go dancers.
Le Boom Pink. 9pm-2am, $5. With Antonio, M3, Tasho, and guests.
Club Debutante Knockout. 9pm. Indie rock with hosts Biggs, Rye in the Sky, and RUA.
Elev8 El Rincon. 10pm-2am. Drum 'n' bass.
Faggot Daddy's. 9pm-2am, free. A gay club with DJ Earworm.
Fashionably Flawless 330 Ritch. 9pm-2am. A club for models, designers, and choreographers.
First Class Milk. 10pm-2am, $5. Live hip-hop and weekly guest DJs.
Hail and Ride Madrone Lounge, 500 Divisadero; 241-0202. 9pm, $3. With Circuit73, 370, Yoko Solo, Schrodinger's Mac and Another Electronic Musician.
Half-Way House Voda. 10pm-2am, free. Downtempo, roots, and deep house with rotating DJs
Indulgence Harry Denton's Starlight Room. 8pm-2am. '70s, disco, funk, and house with DJ Bruce
Laszlo 9pm. Hip-hop and scratching with DJ Aspect.
Levende Lounge 5pm-2am, free. With DJ Von.
Low End Theory Skylark. 9pm-2am, free. Hip-hop, R&B, and more with DJs 4aM, Whooligan, and Keelay.
Magnet Lounge 1402 Grant; 271-5760. 7pm-2am Reggae, dancehall, roots, and culture with AllMightySoundz.
Mighty 9pm. With Addictive TV.
Minx Endup. 9-4am. With female DJs, VJs, vocalists, and performers
Our House Is Your House Shine Dance Lounge, 1337 Mission; 252-1423. 9pm-2am, free. With Aaron Pop and guests
Qoöl 111 Minna Gallery. 5-10pm, $5. Pan-techno lounge with DJs Spesh, Gil, Hyper D, and Jondi.
Red Light Arrow. 10pm-2am. Electro and dark music.
Salsa dance lessons Metronome Dance Center. 7pm, $12. Beginner salsa dance lessons
Satellite Anú, 43 Sixth St; 543-3505, www.anu-bar.com. 9pm-2am, free. House and techno.
Sip and Splurge XYZ Bar, W San Francisco, 181 Third St; 817-7836. 6pm-2am. A evening of decadent foods and wines.
Sweet Spot Tunnel Top. 10pm. Hip-hop, R&B, soul, and reggae with D-Sharp, Friendly Traveler, Kevvy K.
Sweet Thing Delirium. 10pm. '60s and '70s rock and soul with DJ Jules and Jenny.
Synchronize Il Pirata, 2007 16th St; 626-2626. 10pm-2am, $2. Psy-trance
Urban Heat Crossing the Bar, Pier 33; 593-0159. 10pm-2am, $4. Old-school, urban hip-hop, soul, reggae, and R&B with DJs Elly, R-Rated, Freddy Fred, and E-Short.
Vanity Fluid Ultra Lounge, 662 Mission; 615-6888, www.fluidsf.com. 9pm. House with DJs Eddy Santana and Dimitris Mykonos.
Vitabar Divas, 1081 Polk; 928-6006. 10pm-2am, $5. With mikee and Jada Halston.
Wabi Sabi EZ5, 682 Commercial; www.ez5bar.com. 9pm, free. Hip-hop, breaks, and techno with DJ Groovecatcher.
Wink Butter. 9pm-2am, free. House and breaks with DJ Alain Octavo.
Wish 1539 Folsom; 278-9474, www.wishsf.com. 10pm-2am, free. With DJs Canyon, Robynn, and guests.

BAY AREA

Beatdown MLK2232, MLK Jr Way, Oakl; www.2232mlk. 9pm, $5. Hip-hop.
DJ Dudebro Dance Party Ivy Room. 10pm, free. With Erica of Dead Hensons.
Good Life Luka's Taproom and Bar, 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451-4677. 8pm-midnight. With VNA, DMadness, and guests.
Kingman's Lucky Lounge 5-8pm, free. Open audition turntables by appointment, followed by downtempo with Ambient Mafia.
Lion Rock Oasis, 135 12th St, Oakl; (510) 763-0404. 10pm, $7. Reggae, dancehall, and roots with Jah Yzer, DJ Riddim, Dub Rocker, Jah Mystic, and Poppa.
Reggaeton Corner @seventeenth, 510 17th St, Oakl; (510) 433-0577. 9pm. Reggaeton and hip-hop.

THURSDAY 4

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Cat Power and the Memphis Rhythm Band Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon; 421-TIXS. 8pm, $26.50.
Cotton Candy, Knees and Elbows, One Man Banjo Amnesia. 9pm.
Digable Planets Independent. 9pm, $30.
Guilty Hearts, Neins, Mothballs Parkside. 9pm, $6.
Gutbucket, Carneyball Johnson, Geoff Berner Hemlock Tavern. 10pm, $7. See Picks, page 28.
Herms, Loquat, Husbands, DJ Elise Great American Music Hall. 8pm, $8. See Picks, page 28.
Charlie Hickox Pier 23. 7pm, free.
Last Clear Chance Ireland's 32. 9pm.
LSD and the Search for God, Sciflyer, Fast Computers, Drinks Rickshaw Stop. 8pm.
Nicole McRory Johnny Foley's. 9pm.
Punchline, Audition, Lydia, My Former Self Slim's. 8pm, $10.
Rainer Maria, Ambulette, Henry Miller Sextet Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $12.
Bill Sheffield Biscuits and Blues. 9pm, $12.50.
David Jacob Strain, JP Cutler, Pyeng Threadgill 12 Galaxies. 9pm, $10.

BAY AREA

500s, Concubines, Solvents Starry Plough. 9:30pm, $5.
Concubines, Five Hundreds and the Solvents Starry Plough. 9pm.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 42 ››

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[club]
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live: ONE REPUBLIC
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Sun 5/7 noon to 8 FREE — Mother's Day Boutique & Trunk Sale
Sat 5/6 9 pm door 8 $13 adv $15 door — RICHARD BUCKNER AND DOUG GILLARD of Guided By Voices, EL CAPITAN, MERIC LONG
Sun 5/7 9 pm door 8:30 $12 — ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE, THE ANTARTICANS, JE SUIS FRANCE
Mon 5/8 9 pm door 8:30 $8 — BLOOD ON THE WALL, PHYSIC ILLS, THE DEATH OF A PARTY
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THURS/4
ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP
CONT>>

Flux Beckett's. 9:30pm.
San Pablo Trio Uptown. 9pm, $6.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Michelle Amador Jazz at Pearl's. 8 and 10pm, $5-10.
Kamau Seitu Quintet Les Joulins Jazz Bistro. 8pm.
Paul Kimura Bistro Clement, 127 Clement; 387-6966. 6pm, free.
Mike Lipskin, Waldo Carter Moose's. 7pm.
Miles Ahead Figaro Ristorante, 414 Columbus; 398-1300. 8pm.
>> **Joe Morris, Henry Kaiser, Damon Smith, Weasel Walter** Hemlock Tavern. 7:30pm.
Savanna Jazz Trio Savanna Jazz. 9pm, free.
Vince Lateano Trio Enrico's. 7pm.

BAY AREA
Benny Golson Quartet Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $12-18.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Dark Hollow Band Atlas Cafe. 8pm, free.
Jueves Flamencos Peña Pachamama. 8pm, $8.
>> **Mazacote, DJ Eddie** Elbo Room. 10pm, $8.

BAY AREA
Ancient Future Freight and Salvage Coffee House. 8pm, $19.50.
Joe Wilson Speisekammer, 2424 Lincoln, Alameda; (510) 522-1300. 9pm, free.
Trisha Yearwood Marin Veteran's Memorial Auditorium, Avenue of the Flags at Civic Center Dr, San Rafael; (415) 499-6800. 8pm, $35-95.

DANCE CLUBS

1984 Cat Club. 9pm-3am, $3-6. '80s, top 40, and new wave with DJs Jules, Damon, Melting Girl, and Dangerous Dan.
Affliction DNA Lounge. 9:30pm-3am, $5-7. Gothic, industrial, synth pop, and new wave with Decay, Joe Radio, and Sage.
All Men Are Evil Stud. 9:30pm-2am. Live music and DJs.
>> **Arrow** 6:30-10:15pm, free: "Techno Vampire Happy Hour," an erotic club featuring obscure music. 10pm-2am: "Let's Lazertag Sometime," electro, house, dancehall, drum 'n' bass, rock, acid, reggaeton, and booty jams.
>> **Baobab** 10pm, $3. Reggae and dancehall with DJ M'Penzi.
>> **Beat Church** Nickie's BBQ. 9pm, $5. World fusion beats.
Beats and Board Games Canvas Gallery. 7pm-midnight, free. Featuring board games, music, and drinks.
Beso Eight. 10pm-2am, free. Hip-hop, R&B, and more.
Best of the '80s Club Hide. 9pm-2am, free. '80s music.
BingoTopia Knockout. 9pm. With MC Miss Claire and DJ Rick E. Cheese.
>> **Built for Speed** Delirium. 10pm-2am, free. With rotating DJs Fashion Hooker, Platform Whore, and DJ Juan of a Kind.
Cafe Cocomo 9pm, $10. With DJ Fab Fred and a live band.
Cheeky Anú, 43 Sixth St; 543-3505, www.anu-bar.com. 10pm-2am, free. With Jayo, Melyss, J-Fi, Kevin Wardell, and guests.
Club Faith 715 Harrison, www.faithsf.com. 9:30pm-2:30am, $7-12. With DJs Twist, Neon Leon, and Mike Biggz.
Le Colonial 721 Sutter; 931-3600. 10pm, free. Swing, Frank Sinatra, and big band music.
Cruise Liner Lingba Lounge. 9pm-2am. Deep and groovy house with Todd Michael, Cindy, Uncle Larry, Andy Flack, Sunil Kapadia, and weekly guests.
EZ5 682 Commercial; 362-9321. 6-9pm, free: "6 2 9," '80s, uptempo jams, and deep house breaks. 10pm-2am, free: "Bumpin'," with DJs Morse Code and Monte Carlo
>> **Fun** 26 Mix. 9pm, $5-10. Old-school, hip-hop, and reggae with DJ Jah Yzer.
>> **Give Thankz** Club Six. 9pm-2am, $5. With Polo, Daddy Rolo, Common Sensi, Uni-T, Shortkut, Doogie, Ivier, and Irie Dole.
The Goodness Vertigo, 1160 Polk; 674-1278. 10pm-2am, free. Hip-hop, dancehall, soul, breaks, '80s, and everything in between with DJs Cense, Solace, and Mosquito.
Industry Bigfoot Lounge, 1750 Polk; 440-2355. 10pm-2am, free. A club dedicated to those working in the service, promotion, performance, and creation industries.
Inna Da Light Laszlo. 9pm. Dub, reggae, dancehall, and old-school hip-hop with Beatnok.
Interlude Loft 11. 10pm-2am. With rotating DJs Ivan, Jerry Ross, D-Sharp, and Add1.
Levende Lounge 5-10pm: with Drunken Monkey 10pm: "Pacific Standard Time," with DJ Sake1 and guests.
Lindy Hop African American Art and Culture Complex, 762 Fulton; 424-4897. 7pm, $10. Swing dance lessons.
Luna Lounge 1192 Folsom; 626-6043, www.lunaloungesf.org. 6-10pm, free: "Inbox," House and trance with DJs Hoovie, Apot, and Achilles. 10pm, $5-7: "Life Rhythm," downtempo, funk, and soul with Les Paul
Magnet Lounge 1402 Grant; 271-5760. 7pm-2am. With rotating DJs
>> **Misturada** Dark Room, Club Six. 9pm-2am, $5. Afro-Latin, Caribbean, and Brazilian music with DJ Vanka and guests.
>> **Moneyshot** Milk. 9pm. With Future Primitive Sound DJs.
Mr. Smith's 34 Seventh St; 355-9991. 6pm. House, lounge, and intellectual hip-hop with DJ Omar Herrera.
Nexus Endup. 10pm-4:30am. Trance, hard house, drum 'n' bass with underground DJs.
Omar's Clique Beauty Bar. 8pm-2am, free. Future-pop, disco, and more with Omar and Ethan.
On the Run John Colins, 90 Natoma; 543-BARR, www.johncolins.com. 9pm, free.
Pacific Standard Time Bambuddha Lounge. 9pm-2am, $5. Soul music with Sake1 and guests.
Party for the People Element Lounge. 9pm. Hip-hop, funk, and rock mash-ups with Mix Master Mao and DJ Fidelski.
Polo's Blue Cube 34 Mason; 392-4833. 10pm-2am, $7. With Cheb I Sabbah
>> **popscene** 330 Ritch. 10pm-2am, $5-8. Britpop, indie, new wave, mod, electronic, and '60s soul with Aaron Axelsen and Jeremy; with a live set by the Duke Spirit and the Colour.
Purple Haze Skylark. 9pm-2am, free. Hip-hop and dancehall with DJs Osiris, Powder, Jus Rite, Arrow, and Sg-13.
Real Raw Oxygen Bar, Sushi and Sake Lounge. 8pm-midnight. With DJ Pinpullaz Sound.
Simple Pink. 9pm-2am. Classic soul, disco, hip-hop, and more with Julius Papp, Franky Boissy, and Maurico Aviles.
Star Hits Condor Club, 300 Broadway; www.divebar.biz/starhits.htm. 9pm-2am, $5. An alternative dance club featuring DJs, dancing, and more
Suite OneBOne 9pm-4am, $10. With DJs.
Tender Transfer, 198 Church; 861-7499. 6-9pm, free. With DJ Irwin.
>> **Thin Lizzy Thursdays** Benders Bar and Grill. 9pm. Thin Lizzy jams all night long.
Throwback Voda. 10pm-2am, free. Funky stuff, Jamaican sounds, Afro-Latin soul, and hip-hop with Vinnie Esparza and DJ Funklor.
Thursday Night Lounge Thirsty Bear, 661 Howard; www.thirstybear.com. Downtempo.
>> **Tubesteak Connection** Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk; www.auntcharlies-lounge.com.10pm-2am, $3. A gay dance club featuring Eurodisco, electrofunk, and more with DJ Bus Station John
Underworld Kelly's Mission Rock. 9pm. Hip-hop
Vs. Madrone Lounge. 9pm, $3. Mashups and battling beats with Napalm Debt vs. Arsen Lives.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 44>>

milk

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THURS/4
DANCE CLUBS

CONT››

PussyFinger vs. Unconventional Science, DJ Tyler T vs. Redhandz, and Mochipet vs. Bloody Snowman.
XYZ Bar W San Francisco, 181 Third St; 817-7836. 6-9pm. Happy hour.

BAY AREA

Automatic Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9pm-2am. Classics, dancehall, and soul.
» **Brothers and Sisters** Luka's Taproom and Lounge, 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451-4677. 9pm, free. Soulful house and dance music with DJs Dedan, Daniela, and guests.
International Thursday Night Mash-Up @seventeenth, 510 17th St, Oakl; (510) 433-0577. 9pm. With Chuy Gomez, DJ Fuze, and Jerry Rose.
Selector Winter Series Jupiter. 8pm. Rotating DJ night.
Showtime Ivy Room. 10pm, free. Hip-hop. With DJ D, DJ Nytekrawler, LCJ, True Justice, Boogie Shack, Slumplordz, and Rasta Jhaga.
Music Forward Oasis, 135 12th St, Oakl; (510) 763-0404. 10pm-2am, free. With David Marks, Brian Walls, Erik Karki and Shon Johnson.

FRIDAY 5

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Angels and Airwaves, Daredevil Jane Great American Music Hall. 9pm, $26. Sold out.
Bayonics Pier 23. 9pm, $7.
» **Belirays, Boyjazz, Turn Me On Deadman** Bottom of the Hill. 10pm, $10.
Cold Hot Crash Ireland's 32. 9pm.
Damn Handsome and the Birthday Suits Make-Out Room. 7:30pm, $6.
» **Drive-By Truckers, Son Volt, Curt Kirkwood** Fillmore. 9pm, $28.50.
Falling Stars Johnny Foley's. 9pm.
LaTEEN-Os, Special Ed, Betsy and the Teen Takeover Parkside. 9pm, $7.
Moises, Blue Mire, LVEO, New Telepathic Friends Hotel Utah Saloon. 9pm, $7.
Orixa, Bat Makumba, People Independent. 9pm, $12.
Ozma, Facing New York, Plus Ones Slim's. 9pm, $15.
Phillistines, Invincible, NaR, Rigomortis, Amir el Chidiac, Mamaz, DJ Emancipacion Center for Political Education, 522 Valencia; phoenixuprising411@gmail.com. 9pm, $10.
La Plebe, Love Songs, King City Annie's Social Club. 9pm, $6.
Real Rickshaw Stop. 8:30pm, free.
Steve Lucky and Rhumba Bums Biscuits and Blues. 8:30 and 10:30pm, $15.
» **Still Flyin', Papercuts, Aerosols** Hemlock Tavern. 9:30pm, $6.

BAY AREA

Boatclub, Go Going Gone Girls, Bunny Numpkins and the Kill Blow-up Reaction Starry Plough. 9:30pm, $6.
» **Crom, Total Shutdown, Doomsday 1999, 16 Bitchy Pileup, Ettrick, Child Pornography, Erebus Nyx and Styx** 924 Gilman. 8pm, $7.
Domeshots, Sleep in Fame, Maxwell Adams, Almost Dead 924 Gilman. 8:30pm, $10.
Dreamdate, Husbands, Makes Nice Ivy Room. 10pm, $7.
Mundaze Beckett's. 9:30pm.
Skip Henderson and the Starboard Watch Speisekammer, 2424 Lincoln, Alameda; (510) 522-1300. 9pm, free.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Don Alberts, Frank Passantino Moose's. 7:30pm.
Black Market Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark. 9pm, $10.
Joao Bosco Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; 788-7353. 8pm, $25-59.
» **Sarah Cahill** Old First Church. 8pm, $12-15.
Charles Unger Experience with Valencia Les Joulins Jazz Bistro. 8pm.
Chuck Peterson Sextet Bird and Beckett Book, 2788 Diamond; 586-3733. 5:30pm, free.
Cunninghams Savanna Jazz. 9pm, $15.
Dave Parker Quintet Red Rock, 699 Chenery; 333-3030. 9pm, free.
» **Thomas Dimuzio, Joshua Churchill, Brian O'Reilly's Ledger of Fence, Liz Albee** Playspace Gallery, 1111 Eighth St; www.vime.org. 8pm.
Paul Kimura Bistro Clement, 127 Clement; 387-6966. 6pm, free.
KingSings Jazz Trio Waterfront Restaurant, Pier 7; 391-2696. 5pm.
Rebecca Parris Jazz at Pearl's. 8 and 10pm, $15.
Walter Savage Enrico's. 8pm.
Steve Klawiter Trio Bistro Boudin, 160 Jefferson; 928-1849. 6pm, free.
Terry Disley Experience with Rich Armstrong Shanghai 1930. 8pm.
Vidya Red Poppy Art House, 2698 Folsom; 826-2402. 9pm, $10.

BAY AREA

» **Kristian Aspelin, Joe Morris, Steve Adams, Jacob Lindsay, Damon Smith** 1510 Eighth St Performance Space, 1510 Eight St, Oakl; morriswrkshp@balancepointacoustics.com. 8pm, $10.
Benny Golson Quartet Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $16-22.
Dave Bernstein Trio Downtown. 9pm.
» **Lavay Smith** Uptown. 8:30pm, $15.
Swingthing Ashkenaz. 9pm, $11-13.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Roger Clyne and the Peacemakers, Garrison Starr Cafe du Nord. 9pm, $12.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 46››

The Finger thinks the smell test is an acceptable alternative to laundry.

The Finger believes heavy petting is every animal's right.

The Finger believes doodling is a legitimate form of taking notes.

The Finger thinks that streaking would be more fun if it were called "the running of the junk."

followthefinger.com

CONCERT UPDATE

FEATURED SHOW

THE HERMS
LOQUAT, THE HUSBANDS
5/4 Great American Music Hall
theherms.com

THIS WEEK

RESIDUAL ECHOES
5/3 12 Galaxies

CAT POWER & THE MEMPHIS RHYTHM BAND
5/3-4 Palace of Fine Arts

DIGABLE PLANETS
5/3-4 The Independent

THE HERMS
LOQUAT
5/4 Great American Music Hall

LSD & THE SEARCH FOR GOD
5/4 Rickshaw Stop

STILL FLYIN'
5/5 Hemlock Tavern

THE BELLRAYS
5/5 Bottom of the Hill

GRAN RONDE
ONEREPUBLIC
5/6 Hotel Utah Saloon

ESSEX GREEN
IRVING
5/6 Rickshaw Stop

SECRET MACHINES
5/6 The Independent

ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE
5/7 Bottom of the Hill

DESTROYER
5/8 Cafe Du Nord

STARLIGHT MINTS
DIOS (MALOS)
5/9 Bottom of the Hill

EX-BOYFRIENDS
5/10 12 Galaxies

BART DAVENPORT
5/10 Hemlock Tavern

ERASURE Acoustic
5/11 Herbst Theatre

AGENT ORANGE
5/12 Red Devil Lounge

EPOXIES
5/12 Bottom of the Hill

THE COURT & SPARK
5/12 Great American Music Hall

JOHN VANDERSLICE
LAURA VEILS
5/12 The Independent

ELF POWER
5/12 Cafe Du Nord

HELIO SEQUENCE
5/13 Rickshaw Stop

BRAZILIAN GIRLS
5/13 The Fillmore

YOUNG DUBLINERS
5/13 Red Devil Lounge

AFRIKA BAMBAATA
5/13 Club Six

THE FALL
5/14-15 The Independent

CHRIS VON SNEIDERN
TOM HEYMAN
5/15 Make Out Room

PAPERCUTS
5/16 Rickshaw Stop

ABC
5/16-18 Red Devil Lounge

KRIS DELMHORST
ETIENNE DE ROCHER
5/17 The Independent

THE LOVEMAKERS
CHOW NASTY, BOYSK-OUT
5/17 Bimbo's 365

OCS
MERIC LONG
5/17 Hemlock Tavern

SILVER SUNSHINE
5/20 Rickshaw Stop

ARCHITECTURE IN HELSINKI
TUSSLE
5/23 Great American Music Hall

BECK
5/25 The Fillmore

THEE MORE SHALLOWS
5/25 Bottom of the Hill

MINMAE
5/25 Rickshaw Stop

JON AUER
(of the POSIES)
5/27 Hotel Utah Saloon

MOGWAI
5/27 The Fillmore

ERASE ERRATA
5/30 Bottom of the Hill

MADONNA
5/30 HP Pavilion - San Jose

THE HEAVENLY STATES
5/31 Cafe Du Nord

ARCTIC MONKEYS
WE ARE SCIENTIST
5/31 The Warfield

PINBACK
5/31 BIMBO'S 365

THE LAST OF THE BLACKSMITHS
6/1 Cafe Du Nord

MARK KOZELEK
JONATHAN RICHMAN
CHUCK PROPHET & TOMMY GUERRERO
6/3 Great American Music Hall

CHARLATANS U.K.
6/5 The Fillmore

JOSH RITTER
6/7 Great American Music Hall

HANK WILLIAMS III
6/8 The Fillmore

THE SKYGREEN LEOPARD'S
PAPERCUTS
6/8 Make Out Room

THE CONSTANTINES
6/9 Cafe Du Nord

FILM SCHOOL
6/10 Slim's

THE ROOTS
6/10 The Grand

THE WALKMEN
6/12-13 Great American Music Hall

CALEXICO
BLACK HEART PROCESSION
6/17-17 The Fillmore

STIFF LITTLE FINGERS
6/16 Slim's

SNOW PATROL
6/18 The Warfield

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Please check with music venues for prices and availability

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BLACK DREAM
DJ OX

Thu 5/4
THE MOTHBALLS
THE NEINS
THE TOUCH-ME-NOTS

Fri 5/5
THE LA-TEEN-OS
SPECIAL ED
BETSY AND THE TEEN TAKEOVER
MOUTH-OFFS

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Sun 5/7
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VALERIE JAY &
THE AMERICANOS

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EVENTS SFBG.com

OUT OF DARKNESS COMES LIGHT

The National Alliance of Art Scenarios presents "Night Gallery" an art show of nocturnal delights every Saturday night for the month of May 2006. Inspired by Rod Serling's post Twilight Zone show Night Gallery, artists Paul Madonna, Nathan Stapley, The Love Bandits and Hannah Stouffer break the monotony of how the public perceives their usual work. Night Gallery gives each artist the freedom to explore their craft outside the realm of what has routinely defined their work in the market and challenges their self-perception to step into something unfamiliar by renewing and/or expanding upon their self-conviction.
Saturdays in May @ Arspace, 1286 Folsom St
ARSPACE.ORG/NAAS

5th ANNUAL PAGAN FESTIVAL

With this event, we bring together brothers and sisters of ALL indigenous, Earth-based, and nature centered polytheistic beliefs in pride and celebration, as well as those who support arts, music, ceremony, theater and dance within the Interfaith Pagan Community. In doing so, we unite in our message to the world that we must live together in love and tolerance, as opposed to fear and misunderstanding, as voices in the great choir of Spirit. We encourage diversity, tolerance, safety, and respect for all participants and audience members. This is a family-friendly event, and children are encouraged to participate.
May 6 @ downtown Berkeley
THEPAGANALLIANCE.ORG

THE DEVIL ON ALL SIDES (LE DIABLE EN PARTAGE)

Translated and directed by foolsFURY artistic director Ben Yalom, the production is infused with the vibrant physical style that is the troupe's trademark. A haunting tragedy set during the war in ex-Yugoslavia, the play's protagonist, Lorko, a Christian, falls in love with and marries Selma, a Muslim. As the war breaks out, the play shows us the pressures on their love, their families, and the crumbling world around them in a style that seamlessly blends expressionism, poetry, fantasy, and harsh, raw reality.
May 7-28 @ Traveling Jewish Theatre, 470 Florida St
FOOLSFURY.ORG

CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF THE ARTS DESIGN STUDENTS' YEAR-END SHOW

The graduating class of 2006 host a gallery opening to present their year-long thesis projects, presentations and work. Come admire the completed visions of next-gen industrial and furniture designers while professionals from the design and art worlds share their expertise and anticipate the new wave.
May 12 @ Red Ink Studios, 1035 Market St
CCA.EDU

DOCFEST: 5th SAN FRANCISCO DOCUMENTARY FILM FESTIVAL

A film festival that offers the truth, the whole truth or something like the truth. Jean Renoir once said, "Reality is always magic." The San Francisco Independent Film Festival is offering a week and a half of reality and magic, eleven days of nonfiction films and video.
May 12-21 @ Roxie Cinema (3125 16th St) and Women's Building Auditorium (3543 18th St)
SFINDIE.COM

SUSTAINABLE WORLD SYMPOSIUM & FESTIVAL

The purpose of the Symposium is to Educate (fostering an understanding of the most critical issues of our time); Motivate (giving a visceral sense of the urgency as well as the possibilities); and Activate (exploring the many daily ways that all of us can contribute.) The program is a sequential, plenary curriculum that combines experiential presentations, powerful documentary video excerpts and panel discussions. 60 exhibitor booths will be on display in the hall outside the main presentation auditorium, providing further access to resources and solution-oriented projects. Also, a special experiential area called Ubuntu Cultural Village will feature on-going performances, a world cafe, "green project demos," and a Youth Symposium (high school level) happening two hours per day.
May 13-14 @ St. Mary's Cathedral Conference Center, 1111 Gough St. (at Geary)
SWCOALITION.ORG

10th ANNUAL MISSION CREEK MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL

Bringing you the best of the local music and arts scene! This year we are partnering up with indie labels to produce band showcases, including indie label extraordinaire Tiger Beat 6. We are working with curators such as Beth Lisick to curate some of the literary events, Danny Plotnick for the film, and Tony B of the Hemlock for music. We are also working with 12 Galaxies on an outdoor music concert. Visual artists, performers, and musicians will collide once again at Collision brought to you in partnership with The Lab.
May 16-22 @ various San Francisco venues
MCMF.ORG

GUARDIAN
THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN

FRI/5

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

CONT.>>

Trio los Panchos Brava Theater Center, 2789 24th St; 647-2822. 8pm, $32-38.

BAY AREA

Norton Buffalo and friends Freight and Salvage Coffee House. 8pm, $18.50.
Zydeco Flames Eagles Hall, 2305 Alameda, Alameda; (415) 285-6285. 9pm, $13.

DANCE CLUBS

African Dance Mission Baobab. 10pm, $3. Zouk, Soukous, Mapuka, and Rai with DJ Marco and guests.
Afro Disco Canvas Gallery. 9pm-2am, $10. World, house, dub, and avid-jazz.
Alice in Wonderland: The Party CounterPULSE, 1310 Mission; 626-2060. 7:55pm, $7-55. With Kitundu, the Genie, Feroshus Sizzle, Robin Sukhadia, Micropixie, and DJ Mooney.
An Bodhran 668 Haight; 431-4724. 10pm-2am, free. House, funk, and soul with DJ Seamie.
Ballroom and Swing Dance Party Metronome Dance Center. 8pm, $15: ballroom dance lesson followed by a dance party. 9pm, $12: Metro swing party.
Bamboo Hut 479 Broadway; 989-8555. 9pm. With DJ Kirk.
Beyond Ent Harry Denton's Rouge, 1500 Broadway; 346-7683. 9:30pm-2am, $15. Top 40 and house with DJs Andrew B and MajestiChris.
Body Rock Nickie's BBQ. 9pm. Funk, hip-hop, rock, and more.
Boy Candy Underground SF. 9pm-2am. A gay club with Ruben Mancias.
Brass Tax Amnesia. 9pm. House, breaks, electro, and hip-hop with DJs Fred Funk, Goldilox, Loosebeats, and Tung.
Casa Madrone Lounge. 9pm, $4. International music with DJ Papi Chocolate and guests.
Club Dragon Eight. 9pm-3am. A gay Asian dance club.
Club Loaded Rickshaw Stop. 10pm-2am, $6. Rock with OneRepublic, DJ Omar, and DJ Audrock; live set by Gran Ronde.
Corazon Cinco de Mayo Celebration Elbo Room. 10pm, $7. With DJs Mauricio Aviles and Alain del Corazon.
Club NV 10pm-3:30am. Hip-hop and salsa.
Club Six 10pm-4am, $10. Salsa, merengue, cumbias, freestyle, reggaeton, reggae, dancehall, hip-hop, and more with DJ I-Cue and Mr. E.
Le Colonial 721 Sutter; 931-3600. 10pm-2am, $5. R&B, jazz, blues, and downtempo.
Desire Fluid Ultra Lounge, 662 Mission; 615-6888, www.fluidsf.com. 10pm, $10-15. Hip-hop, mash-ups, and rock with DJs Riz and Sizzahandz, Solomon, and Morse Code.
Double Dutch 26 Mix. 10pm-2am, $5. Hip-hop, soul funk, dancehall, and breaks with DJs Cyrus, Blaqwest, Neta, Paulytek, Pause, and Ross Hogg.
Dragon Bar 473 Broadway; 834-9383. 8pm-2am, $10, free before 10pm. House, hip-hop, Latin, jazz, and classic dance mixes with Ean Golden.
Drinks On Us Club LaMia, 3910 Geary; (925) 565-5594. 9pm-2am. Hip-hop, R&B, and reggae with DJ Mind Motion, Rum, and S1.
Fag Fridays Endup. 10pm-6am, $8. With residents Rolo, David Harness, and Pete Avila, Neon Leon, and weekly guests.
Femme DJs DNA Lounge. 10pm-2am, $2. Funky house with DJ Lady House.
Firecracker Il Pirata, 2007 16th St; 626-2626. 9pm-2am, $5. House and breaks.
Folded Anú, 43 Sixth St; 543-3505, www.anubar.com. 10pm-2am, free. House music with the Fingermonsters Live.
Foundry Club Hide. 9pm-2am, free. Industrial, EBM, goth, darkwave, noise, and more with DJ Caine and DJ Whorfin.
Freaky Fridays EZ5 682 Commercial; 362-9321. 6-10pm, free. Old-school, nu-skool, and more.
Fuck Shack Beauty Bar. 9pm-2am. With Jefrodesiac, Richie Panic, and Birdy.
Harry Denton's Starlight Room Midnight, $5. With DJ Sammi.
Hot Boxxx Girls Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk; www.auntcharlieslounge.com.10pm-2am, free. With host Gina La Divina.
Laced Up Luna Lounge, 1192 Folsom; 626-6043, www.lunaloungesf.org. 10pm-2am, $5-10. With rotating DJs Yusai, Deedot, and Dubbs.
Latin Bay Area Glas Kat. 10pm-3am. Salsa, merengue, reggaeton, bachata, rock en Español, Latin pop, Mexican, hip-hop, R&B, and old-school with Tony O, Radio Activo, Chuy Gomez, DJ Mauricio, and Santiago.
Levende Lounge 6-10pm: with live performance by Acoustic Sneaky. 10pm: "Bounce," with DJs the Shortbus Kids and guests.
Lingba Lounge 9pm-2am, free. Latin house.
Magnet Lounge 1402 Grant; 271-5760. 7pm-2am With rotating DJs.
Make-Out Room 10pm, $5. Bhangra, breakbeat, and more with Jimmy Love
Master Blaster Delirium. 10pm. Punk rock.
Mood Swing Eastside West, 3154 Fillmore; 885-4000. 9pm, free. Rare grooves, Latin funk, soul, reggae, and hip-hop with DJs J. Diamond, Precise, and guests.
Mouth to Mouth Studio Z. 9pm, $10. With DJ Von.
Mr. Smith's 34 Seventh St; 355-9991. 6pm. With Chris Harnett.
Night and Day Voda. 10pm-2am, free. Soulful sounds and vibes with DJs Black and Decka.
Night of the Remix Milk. 10pm-2am. Hip-hop, dancehall, rock, soul, and electro remixes.
Our Latin Thing Jelly's. 10pm, $10.
Outlaw Fridays Nickie's BBQ. 10pm-2am, $5. Hip-hop, rock, '80s, and new wave with Swayzee and Destro.
Quench Fridays Club Q, 61 Golden Gate; www.freepartysf.com. 9pm. With various resident DJs spinning music in three rooms
Remedy Ruby Skye. 9pm-4am, $15. With various guest DJs.
Rewind Element Lounge. 9pm-2am. With Steve Masters and Brian Raffi.
Shadowplay Stud. 9pm-3am, $5. Indie, new wave, electro, and disco punk with DJ Donimo.
Space Truckin' Benders Bar and Grill. 6-10pm. With DJs.
Swing at Seven SF LGBT Community Center, 1800 Market; 305-8242, www.queerjitterbugs.com. 7-10pm, $5-7. Weekly swing dance club.
Suite One8One 9pm-4am, $20. With DJs
Tema El Rio. 10pm-2am, $5. Soca, reggaeton, bhangra, salsa, merengue, Afrobeat, salsa, samba, bhangra, reggaeton, soca, and more.
Tougher Than Leather Lit. 10pm-2am, free. Hip-hop.
Velvet Lounge 9pm, $10. With DJ Manny Perez.
The X 715 Harrison; www.sfclubs.com. 9:30pm-2:30am. House with DJ Paolo.
XYZ Bar W San Francisco, 181 Third St; 817-7836. 6-9pm. Happy hour.

BAY AREA

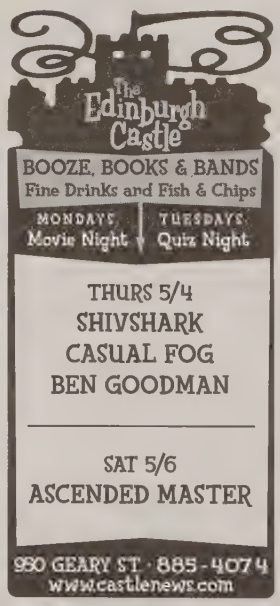
Cinco de Mayo Shattuck Downlow. 9pm, $8. Afrobeat with Albino.
Fourth Annual Pachucada La Peña Cultural Center. 8:30pm, $10-15.
Ibiza 10 Hegenberger Rd, Oakl; (510) 567-8945. 10pm, $8-10. Hip-hop and soul with DJ Ms.
Kingman's Lucky Lounge 5-8pm, free. With DJ JRs. "Free Flo Fridays," 9pm-2am. With DJs AJB, Rawman, Robynn, and guests.
Luka's Taproom and Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451-4677. 10pm, $5-10. Reggae, dancehall, and hip-hop with Rocker T and Smoke One.
Martini Lounge @seventeenth, 510 17th St, Oakl; (510) 433-0577. 9pm, $10. Cinco de Mayo celebration with Chuy Gomez and DJ Fuze.
Tiger Lounge Golden Bull. 9pm. With All Purpose DJs

SATURDAY 6

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Beatropolis Amnesia. 9pm.
Richard Buckner and Doug Gillard Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $15.
Crom, Doomsday 1999, 16 Bitch Pile Up Elbo Room. 5pm, $6.
Crosstops, Wilson Gil and the Willful Sinners, Ill Gotten Gainz El Rio. 10pm, $7.
Drive-By Truckers, Son Volt Fillmore. 9pm, $28.50.
Essex Green, Irving, Seiko and Salome Rickshaw Stop. 9pm, $12.
Gran Ronde, OneRepublic Hotel Utah Saloon. 9pm, $7.
Hotter than Helga Ireland's 32. 9pm.
Islands, Why?, Cadence Weapon Slim's. 9pm, $14. See Picks, page 28.
Junkhead, Penny Royal, Dirty Frank, DPS Pound-SF. 8pm, $10
Lowfat Pier 23. 10pm, $8.
Lushus Funkshun Johnny Foley's. 9pm.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 48>>



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BRING INTRUMENTS
BRING YOUR VOICE

FRI 5/5
POSTCOITUS
MAKE ME
SOCIAL STUDIES
THE PLEASE AND THANK YOU

WED 5/10
TETRIS TOURNAMENT

UPCOMING
5/12 TUXEDO KILLERS
5/13 GRIS GRIS

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SATURDAY, MAY 6 $6 7PM
EARLY MATINEE SHOW
PINE BOX BOYS
BOB HARP
MIKAH SYKES

SATURDAY, MAY 6 $7 10PM
SATURDAY LOVE AND CLUB UNICORNIO PRESENT FROM MEXICO CITY
INSTITUTO DEL SONIDO
WITH DJS FRANKO, JULIO CESAR MORALES AND CHRISTOPHER CROSSFADER

SUNDAY, MAY 7 $6 9PM
THE UNION STANDARD
PIRATE RADIO
J.J. SCHULTZ

MONDAY, MAY 8 7PM
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MONDAY, MAY 8 10PM $5
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DJS JAMIE JAMS, EMDEE, LITTLE MELANIE, AIDAN AND NADINE

TUESDAY, MAY 9 8PM $7
BACK 40 BAND
HILLSTOMP
PETE BERNHARD TRIO
(OF THE DEVIL MAKES THREE)
THE SUMNER BROTHERS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 9PM $8
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THE EMBROIDERY & FRIENDS

SATURDAY, MAY 13 7:30 $6
EARLY MATINEE SHOW
PANTS PANTS PANTS
SIGN FOR STEREO

SUNDAY, MAY 14 8PM $6
VERMILLION LIES
JOHN GREINER (KANSAS CITY)
SHIVSHARK (STEVE ORTH)

MONDAY, MAY 15 7:30 $8
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ZEPPARELLA
THE HOUSE OF MORE
A ROCKET DOG RESCUE BENEFIT

THURSDAY, MAY 4
TAPE
SUECO
THE PAWNSHOP KINGS

FRIDAY, MAY 5
SIR MIX - A - LOT
THE FEED
OSTRICH HEAD

SATURDAY, MAY 6
THE LOOK
COLD HOT CRASH
LOVE KRAFT
JADE OF DAYS
IMMACULATE MESS

TUESDAY MAY 9
SEX TOYS AND ROCK AND ROLL
AN AIDS LIFECYCLE RIDE BENEFIT
AUSTIN WILLACY
TANYA PLUTH

THURSDAY, MAY 11
BRAD WOLFE AND THE MOON
MEGAN SLANKARD
A CROSS CULTURAL SOLUTIONS BENEFIT

FRIDAY, MAY 12
AGENT ORANGE
THE GIRLFRIEND EXPERIENCE
THE FUCKING BUCKAROOS

SATURDAY, MAY 13
THE YOUNG DUBLINERS
BUCKFAST

SUNDAY MAY 14
MISSION CREEK MUSIC FESTIVAL
PALACE FAMILY STEAKHOUSE
SIX EYED COLUMBIA
TORTIEV BESTLIFE
GRAHAM CONNAH
THE INVERTEBRATES

TUESDAY, MAY 16, WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 AND THURSDAY, MAY 18
ABC ★★★

FRIDAY, MAY 19 AND SATURDAY, MAY 20
POP ROCKS

SUNDAY, MAY 21
SPONGE
UNEQUALED CLARITY

FRIDAY, MAY 26
BLACK SHEEP
D.N.A. CREW
FIYAWATO/ REMO CONSCIOUS

SATURDAY, MAY 27
GRIDDLE
AMERICAN HEARTBREAK
THE FREAK ACCIDENT

THURSDAY, JUNE 8
AN EVENING WITH
GARAJ MAHAL

THURSDAY, JUNE 22
GURU
OF GANGSTARR AND JAZZMATAZZ

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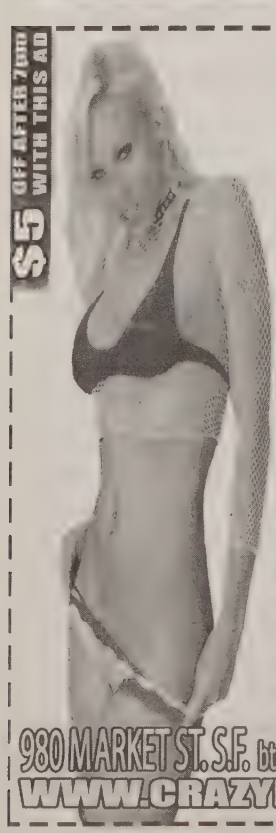

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THUR 5/4 SHOWTIME @ 11
RESIDENT DJS TRUE JUSTICE DJ D, DJ NYTEKRAWLER SPINNING OLD SCHOOL HIP HOP SLAP, REGGAETON LIVE HIP HOP BY LCJ & TRUE JUSTICE + BOOGIE SHACK THE SLUMPLORDZ RASTA JHAGA

FRI 5/5
DREAMDATE, THE HUSBANDS THE MAKES NICE

SAT 5/6 FREE
BOB SEEGER'S BIRTHDAY: TOTAL B.S.! (THE BOB SEGER COVER BAND W/ MEMBERS OF COMETS ON FIRE, DRUNK HORSE, HAROLD RAY) + DJS

SUN 5/7
"DRIFTING ON A MEMORY" W/ DJS GARRETT AND IVAR SPIN OLDIES AND LOWRIDER

TUE 5/9
STEVE FREUND TRIO

COMING SOON
5/11- SHOWTIME @ 11 W/ LCJ & TRUE JUSTICE + POACH STEVENS, RONDO BROS, PHO BALO
5/12- DAVE GLEASON'S WASTED DAYS
5/13- THE RED THREAD, THE SCRAPS, HELENE RENAUT (OF BEAM)
5/15- FREE, ACOUSTIC- BRETT EUGENE RALPH, BOBBI A, CHRIS STROFFOLINO, TANYA BROLASKI, GREG ASHLEY, SORCERYBIRD, YEA-MING

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SAT/6
ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP
CONT>>

Lyme Regis, Mantles, Young and Natural Hemlock Tavern. 9:30pm, $6.
Pine Box Boys, Bob Harp Make-Out Room. 7:30pm, $6.
RonsKat's Katdelic Revival, Zootzilla Studio Z. 9pm, $10.
Secret Machines Independent. 9pm, $20.
Shotgun Wedding, Tekitha, Joe Bagale Cafe du Nord. 9pm, $14.
Solid Dollar, Electric Boogie Dawgz, Bevelacqua Parkside. 9pm, $8.
Voodoo Cabaret AfroCrusade Balazo18. 8pm.

BAY AREA
Anxious Me, Aratic, Thaddeus Duke Blakes. 8:30pm, $10.
Lewis Black Paramount Theatre. 8pm, $39.50-49.50.
Bubba Spanxxx @seventeenth, 510 17th St, Oakl; (510) 433-0577. 9pm.
Element 94, Red Horizon, Normal Like You, Secondhand Serenade, 5606, Inspect Her Gadget Oakland Metro. 7pm, $10.
Nicole McRory Beckett's. 9:30pm.
Persephone's Bees, Boyjazz, Outline Kit Uptown. 8pm, $8.
Rockin' Jalapeño Pachuco Party La Peña Cultural Center. 9:30pm, $8-12.
Teenage Harlets 924 Gilman. 8pm.
Total B.S. Ivy Room. 10pm, $5. Bob Seeger's birthday bash.
Youngs, Brian Kenney Fresno, Salane and friends Starry Plough. 9:30pm.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC
Don Alberts, Frank Passantino Moose's. 7:30pm.
Bill "Doc" Webster Band Les Joulins Jazz Bistro. 8pm.
Black Market Jazz Orchestra Top of the Mark. 9pm, $10.
Cunninghams Savanna Jazz. 9pm, $15.
Kenny Baron Trio, Danilo Perez Trio Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; 788-7353. 8pm, $25-59
Paul Kimura Bistro Clement, 127 Clement; 387-6966. 6pm, free.
Rebecca Parris Jazz at Pearl's. 8 and 10pm, $15.
Rhonda Benin and Soulful Strut Enrico's. 8pm.
>> **Lavay Smith** Biscuits and Blues. 8:30 and 10:30pm, $15.
Steve Klawiter Trio Bistro Boudin, 160 Jefferson; 928-1849. 6pm, free

BAY AREA
Benny Golson Quartet Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $22.
Denise Perrier Trio Downtown. 9pm.
Jenny Ferris Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar, Berk; (510) 848-3227. 8pm, $10-15
Fourtet Jazz Group Albatross Pub. 9:30pm, $3
Frisky Frolics Speisekammer, 2424 Lincoln, Alameda; (510) 522-1300. 9pm, free.
>> **Joe Morris, Oluyemi Thomas, Spirit, Scott R. Looney** 1510 Eighth St Performance Space, 1510 Eight St, Oakl; morriswrkshp @balancepointacoustics.com. 8pm, $10
Snake Trio Jazzschool. 8pm, $12-15.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY
"Breakfast with Enzo" Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center. 515 Cortland; 206-2140. 10am, free.
Joe Cuningham and Erik Walker Community Music Center, 544 Capp; 647-6015. 8pm, free.
Gil, Cartas, and Tuey Red Poppy Art House, 2698 Folsom; 826-2402. 8pm, $12.
>> **Jeanie and Chuck's Country Roundup, Kemo Sabe, Ca$h Magnets, Toshio Hirano, Sons of Emperor Norton, Robber Barons, Nightbirds** Knockout. 8pm, $10.
Trio ios Panchos Brava Theater Center, 2789 24th St; 647-2822. 8pm, $32-38.

BAY AREA
Harmony Sweepstakes A Capella Festival Marin Veteran's Auditorium, 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael; (415) 499-6800. 8pm, $29.50
Steve Seskin, Allen Shamblin Freight and Salvage Coffee House. 8pm, $19.50.
"Spring Square Dance" Ashkenaz. 7pm, $6-12. With Thompson's String Ticklers and Squirrelly Stringband.

DANCE CLUBS
1015 Folsom 9pm. With Above and Beyond.
>> **Avery Island** Jack's Club, 2545 24th St; 641-5371. 10pm, free. A dance party with DJ Jamie Jams and dollar drinks.
Bamboo Hut 479 Broadway; 989-8555. 10pm. With DJ Scotty.
>> **Baobab** 10pm, $3. African and French hip-hop with DJ Sogui and Edibe.
>> **Better Days** Pink. 9pm-2am, $10. With Franky Boissy.
Browntempo Tunnel Top. 10pm-2am, free. Afro discobeat, Latin funk, and electropicalia with Rueben, Romanowski, and friends.
>> **Budonkadonk** Milk. 9pm-2am. With Rascue and Tom Thump.
Cafe Cocomo 9pm, $15. With live band a DJ
City Nights 9:30pm-2:30am. Hip-hop and club hits

THE GUARDIAN PRESENTS HELLRAISER HAPPY HOUR

Devil horns were in full effect as the Guardian Hellraisers staged a hard-rock and metal happy hour at the Inner Richmond's swankiest new live music venue, the Rockit Room! Everyone enjoyed absolutely scrumptious delights from Rohan Lounge, specials on Budweiser beer, and fun giveaways courtesy of Amoeba Music and Magnolia Pictures! Keep reading the Guardian to find out where we'll turn it out for our next Hellraiser Happy Hour!

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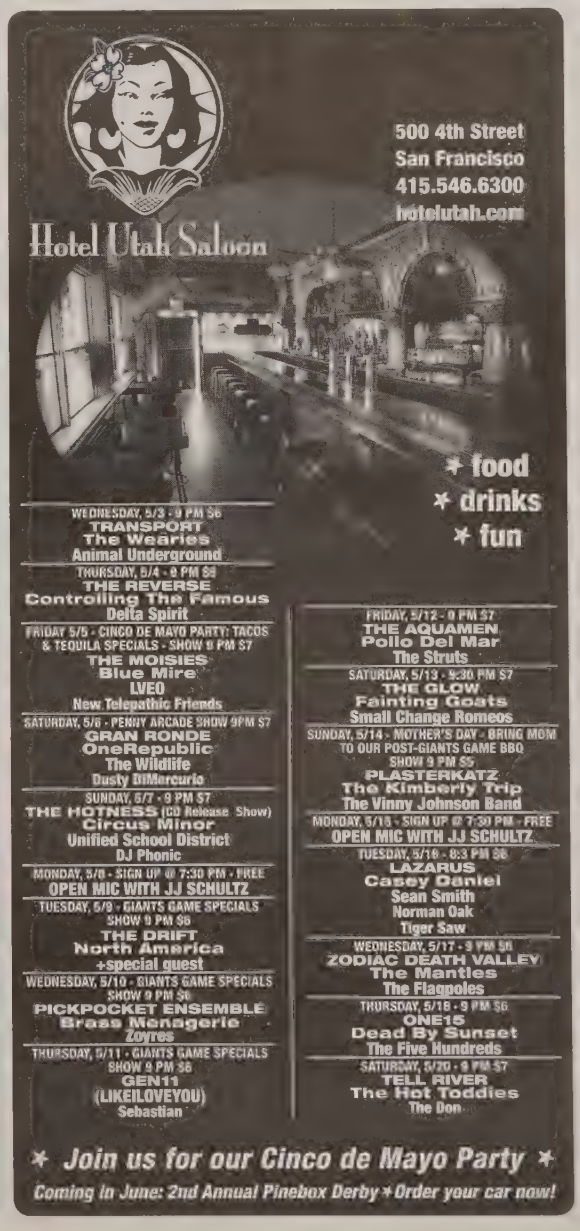

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Club Gossip Cat Club, 1190 Folsom; 431-3332. 9:30pm-3am, $6. A new wave video night club with Damon, Melting Girl, Shon, and special guests.
Club NV 10pm-3:30am. Hip-hop and dance music.
Le Colonial 721 Sutter; 931-3600. 10pm-2am, $10. Top 40, hip-hop, and house.
DeeCee's Soul Shakedown Party Club Six. 10pm, $5. With DJ Guacamole, DJ Jacques, and Funklor.
Destroy All Genres Beauty Bar. 9pm-2am. Classic and leftfield dance party with D.A.G
Digital Voda. 10pm-2am. Underground house and electro with DJs Ryme and Kevin Spicy
» **Dirty** Stud. 10pm-4am, $5. A gay dance club featuring house music.
Doghouse ODC Dance Commons, 351 Shotwell; www.doghouseswing.com. 9pm-12:30am, $15-18. Swing dancing.
Elevate Roe/Prive, 651 Howard; 979-3031, www.sebastienentertainment.com. 9:30pm-3am. Hip-hop, rock, club classics, house, global grooves, and more.
» **Endup** 6am-1pm: "Ascension," with DJs Vince, Adrian, Jim Hopkins, and Tracy. 10pm-6am: "Revolutionary," hosted by Astroboy Jim; with DJs Keoki and guests.
The Factory Factory 525, 525 Harrison; 339-8686, www.sfclubs.com. 9:30pm-3:30am, $5-15. Hip-hop, house, and more
Fluid Saturdays Fluid Ultra Lounge, 662 Mission; 615-6888, www.fluidsf.com. 9pm. Hip-hop, mash-ups, and rock with DJ Scotty Boy
Frisco Disco Arrow. 10pm-2am.
Funkside 26 Mix. 10pm-2am, $5. Funk, soul, hip-hop, and dancehall with Toph One, Wisdom, and rotating DJs
Harry Denton's Starlight Room Midnight, $5. With DJ Dave Gillis
» **Hot Boxxx Girls** Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk; www.auntcharlieslounge.com.10pm-2am, free. With host Gina La Divina.
I Love Wet Parties Delirium. 10pm. With DJs Jenny and Jules.
Levende Lounge 5-10pm: with Eric Lacy
Lift DNA Lounge. 10pm-3am, $20. Hip-hop and mainstream beats with Kevin Wong and Richie Ritch.
Live at the BBQ Nickie's BBQ. 9pm. Hip-hop, midtempo, and more with B Dub, Efrem, Devlin, and Aron.
Magnet Lounge 1402 Grant; 271-5760. 7pm-2am Hip-hop, old-school, and funk with DJ Mizzo.
Mile High Club EZ5, 682 Commercial; 362-9321. 10pm-2am, free. Jet-set lounge sounds with Fletcher and Joel
Mr. Smith's 34 Seventh St; 355-9991. 8pm. With DJ Mei Lwun.
Pop Rx Gallery, 132 Eddy; www.rxgallery.com. 10pm, $7. With Broker Dealer.
El Rincon 10pm-2am. Salsa, timba, reggaeton, merengue, and more with DJ Walt Digz.
Salsa at the Met Metronome Dance Center. 8pm, $10. Salsa dance party
» **Salted Saturdays** Mighty. 10pm-5am, $10, $20 after 11pm. With Miguel Migs and Julius Papp.
Sangria Knockout. 9pm. With Toph One and Consuelo
» **Saturday Night Soul Party** Elbo Room. 10pm, $5. '60s soul with Pink Panzer, Paul Paul, and Phengren Oswald.
Session Amnesia. 9pm. Reggae and dancehall
Sexy Underground SF. 9pm. A boy bar with DJs Matt Valenz and guests
Shake Appeal Madrone Lounge. 9pm, $5. Indie rock, disco, and soul with DJs Omar, Baby Ryan, Nadine, and Aidan
» **Sonido** Make-Out Room. 10pm, $5. '60s and '70s Latin, boogaloo, cumbias, soul, bhangra, booty bass, and more with DJ Willie Cologne and guests
Spin Kelly's Mission Rock. 9pm-2am. With DJs and performances.
Still Doin' It Anú, 43 Sixth St; 543-3505, www.anu-bar.com. 10pm-2am, free. Soulful and dubbed out drum 'n' bass with DJs Soul Stream, Kuze, Femme Fatale, and Retox, and host MC Duh
Suede 383 Bay; 399-9555. 9pm-2am, $10-15. House and hip-hop.
Suite oneBone 9pm-4am, $20. With DJs.
Velvet Lounge 9pm, $10. '70s, '80s, modern rock, and funk with DJ Bumper.
Weekend Warriors Butter. 10pm-2am, $2. Rock, mash-up, '80s hip-hop, and house with DJ Pat and Calvin Riley.

BAY AREA

Braziu Shattuck Downlow. 9pm, $12. Live Brazilian music with DJ Rueben.
Femme Fatale @seventeenth, 510 17th St, Oakl; (510) 433-0577. 9pm-2am. R&B, soul, and hip-hop with DJ Pam the Funkstress.
On the Down Low Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 8pm-2am, free. With Matt G. and DJ Pone.
Joynt 2232 MLK Jr Way, Oakl; www.butterflyproductions.net. 9pm. A dance party for women
Smoove Luka's Taproom and Lounge, 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451-4677. 10pm-2am. Future funk, neo-soul, dancehall, old-school, and new-school with Wisdom, Jamo, and rotating DJs.

SUNDAY 7

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

» **Acid Mothers Temple, Antarcticans, Je Suis France** Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $12.
Cashish Ireland's 32. 9pm.
Dr. Dee Pier 23. 4pm, $8.
Hotness, Circus Minor, Unified School District, DJ Phonic Hotel Utah Saloon. 9pm, $7.
Judith and Holofernes, Leyna Noel Rite Spot. 7pm.
Kill Hannah, Shiny Toy Guns, Clear Static Slim's. 8pm, $13
Gary Louris and Mark Olson Great American Music Hall. 8pm, $25
Walker T. Ryan Biscuits and Blues. 8:30pm, $10.
Soul Position, Yo, Flacol Independent. 9pm, $15.
This Union Standard, Pirate Radio, J.J. Schultz Make-Out Room. 9pm, $6
KT Tunstall Fillmore. 8pm, $22.75.
Valerie Jay and the Americanos Parkside. 5pm, free
Youngs, Dimes, Anamorphosis Hemlock Tavern 9:30pm, $6.

BAY AREA

Everything Must Go, Dynamite B, Shootin' Lucy, Snatch and the Fingers, DJ Isaac Owen Money Golden Bull. 7pm, $5
Sippy Cups Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College, Berk; (925) 798-1300. 12:30 and 3pm.
Tragedy Andy, Born/Dead, Witch Hunt, Deathtoll, Never Healed 924 Gilman. 5pm, $7.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Don Asher, Waldo Carter Moose's. 11:30am
Bill "Doc" Webster Band Les Joulins. 8pm.
BJ Papa concert and jam Jazz at Pearl's. Concert 8:30pm; jam, 10:30pm, $5-10.
Jon Gordon, Joe Bagg, Mark Ferber Chez Hanny, 145 Fillmore; 552-2729. $20.
Mike Greensill, Ruth Davies Moose's. 7pm.
Victoria Hughes Top of the Mark. 10am-2pm
John Calloway's Quintet Old First Church. 5pm, free.
Mike Lipskin Washington Square Bar and Grill. 7pm.
Macy Blackman Trio Enrico's. 7pm.
Larry O'Leno Octavia Lounge, 1772 Market; 863-3690. 7pm. Open mic.
Rebecca Parris Jazz at Pearl's. 8 and 10pm, $15.
Phil Woods Quintet, Bill Charlap, Brian Lynch Herbst Theatre, 401 Van Ness; 788-7353. 7pm, $25-59.
Red Light Abatement Amnesia. 7:30pm, $5.
Savanna Jazz Jam Session Savanna Jazz. 9pm.

BAY AREA

Benny Golson Quartet Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $5-22.
Montclair Women's Big Band Jazzschool. 4:30 and 6:30pm, $20.
Ravi Shankar, Anoushka Shankar Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berk; (510) 642-9988. 7pm, $36-68.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Gamelan Sekar Jaya Yerba Buena Garden, 760 Howard; 543-1718. 1pm.
Trio los Panchos Brava Theater Center, 2789 24th St; 647-2822. 3 and 8pm, $32-38

BAY AREA

Jimbo Trout and the Fishpeople Epic Arts, 1923 Ashby, Berk; (510) 644-2204. 7:30pm.
"Starry Irish Music Session" Starry Plough. 8pm. With Shay Black.

DANCE CLUBS

Bazooka Underground SF. 10pm-2am, free. Bubblegum pop from the '70s, '80s, and today with DJ Marcelino.
» **Bionic** Pink. 10pm-2am, $5. With DJs Solar, Mark E. Quark, and Iz.
Black President's Day Knockout. 7pm-midnight, free. Afro, funk, '70s, and global funky funk.
Cafe Flore 2298 Market; www.cafeflore.com. 7-11pm, free. With DJ Ken Vulsion.
Check the Rhyme Milk. 9pm-2am. Old-school with DJs.
» **Club Havana** Jelly's. 4pm, $10.
» **Dub Mission** Elbo Room. 9pm-2am, $5. With DJs Swingsett, DJ Sep, and Maneesh the Twister.
Endup 6am-8pm: "Sunday T-Dance," with DJs Vince, Adrian, Nikola Batyala, John Hopkins, and weekly guests. 8pm-4am, $12: "Super Soul Sundayz," with DJ David Harness, Patrick Wilson, and guests.
Gay and Lesbian Sundays Gallery Lounge, 510 Brannan; 227-0449. 2pm.
Harry Denton's Starlight Room Midnight, $5. With DJ Dave Gillis.
Kodo Wish, 1539 Folsom; 278-9474, www.wishsf.com. 6pm-2am, free. Lounge music with Hideo Kobayashi, Chad Mitchell, Craig Kuna, Tokyo Component, Still Rob G, and guests.
Levende Lounge 11am-4pm: "Boogie Brunch," with DJs Ben Hester and Rob G.
Love So' Sessions Element Lounge. 9pm, $5-10. With host Ibrahim and DJs Daniela, D-Sharp, Cecil, and Lovelee.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 50 »

THURSDAY, MAY 4TH 9PM-2AM 21+
GIVE THANKZ
THE CITY'S BIGGEST REGGAE WEEKLY
REGGAE/DANCEHALL/SOCA/SOUL/REGGAETON
DJS: DJ POLO, IRIE DOLE & IVIER, SHORTKUT, UNI-T, COMMON SENSI, DADDY ROLO, DOOGIE, DJ HENROC
FREE BEFORE 11PM/$5 AFTER
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VOTED "TOP 5 GLOBAL NIGHTS" - SF BAY GUARDIAN 2005
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FREE BEFORE 11PM WITH FLYER/$5 AFTER

FRIDAY, MAY 5TH 9PM-3AM $10 21+
5@6
CINCO DE MAYO
FEATURING DJ I-CUE AND MR.E
PLUS SF DJ ALL-STAR CREW:
DJ JOSE MELENDEZ
PAPA JOE
DJ PAPI CHOCOLATE
WALT DIGGZ, I-VIER, RIGO

SATURDAY, MAY 6TH 9PM-3AM 21+
DEE CEE'S SOUL SHAKEDOWN PARTY
DANCEHALL/REGGAE/REMIXES BY
W8LK DANCEHALL MASSIVE FEATURING
DJ GUACAMOLE & DJ JACQUES
W/ 2006 CLUB DREAD SOUNDCLASH WINNER
BROKEN SILENCE SOUND
HIP-HOP, OLD SCHOOL WITH
DJ FUZE (DIGITAL UNDERGROUND)
FUNKLOR (SPEARHEAD), DE' (LION PAW SOUND)
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BY MAVRIK (LIVE HIP-HOP)
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$5 BEFORE 10:30

EVERY TUESDAY 9PM-2AM 21+
O' SHEA PRESENTS
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LIVE JAZZ, NEO-SOUL, R&B, & OPEN MIKE SPOKEN WORD.
FEATURING
CENSE (GOODNES PROD.), SUPREME (ORIGINAL DJS), J PRO (CHEWYGOMEZ.COM)
FREE BEFORE 11PM/$5 AFTER

UPCOMING:
FRI 5/12 - ON SIX GALLERY PRESENTS: THE SERENADE IS DEAD
SAT 5/13 - OLD SCHOOL RULES WITH AFRIKA BAMBAATA, KOOL HERC, JAZZY JAY

CLUB 6 60 SIXTH ST btwn market & mission st. 415.863.1221

SUN/7

DANCE CLUBS

CONT>>

Madrone Lounge 8pm, free. Indie grooves with DJ Big Tim and T.
Magnet Lounge 1402 Grant; 271-5760. 7pm-2am. With rotating DJs.
Mundo Lingba Lounge. 7pm-2am, free. Salsa, Afrobeat, cumbia, Brazilian, and dancehall with Don Bustamante and El Doctor.
Night Light Beauty Bar. 10pm-2am, free. With Rob Highlife, EmDee, and SteveMac.
Propagandal Laszlo, 2536 Mission; 648-7600. 6pm-2am, free. '80s and electro with Gogo.
Return of True House Studio Z. 9pm, $15. House music with DJs DIA and Miro Dondinn.
SalsaCrazy Sunday Metronome Dance Center. 6:30-11pm, $15. Salsa dance social and dance lessons.
Salsa Sundays El Rio. 3-8pm. Salsa dances classes and live music.
Shack Up! Arrow. 10pm-2am, free. Indie, art rock, soul, psychedelic, new wave, and funk with Tony Machine, Charles Kutch, and Melanie Valentine.
Sh'elbdr Elixir, 3200 16th St; 552-1633. 9pm. A lesbian party.
Soulcial Sundays Loft 11. 8pm-midnight. Soul, reggae, R&B, and urban classics.
Tropical Sundays Metronome Dance Center. 6:30pm, $4-8. Beginner salsa, merengue, and bachata lessons, followed by a DJ dance party.
Ugly Delirium. 10pm. With DJs.

BAY AREA

Ashkenaz 10pm, free. With DJ Edwin.
Drifting on a Memory Ivy Room. 10pm, free. With DJ Garrett and Ivar.
Kingman's Lucky Lounge 3332 Grand, Oakl; (510) 465-KING. 9pm. With Jamin.
King of Kings Shattuck Downlow. 8pm, $5-7. With DJs Papa Joe and DJ Smoky.
Luka's Tap Room and Lounge 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451-4677. 9pm, free. Hip-hop and old-school with DJs Tim D and Willie Maze.
Sunshine's Soul Sundays Lucre Lounge, 2086 Allston Way, Berk; (510) 841-1390. 5pm-midnight, free. Classic and neo-soul; and Chicago-style stepping hosted by 7Broke Brothers.

MONDAY 8

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Back Burner Blues Band Biscuits and Blues. 9pm, $10.
Blood on the Wall, Physic Ills, Death of a Party Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $8. See Picks, page 28.
Destroyer, Hudson Bell Cafe du Nord. 9:30pm, $10.
Facedowninshit, Intronaut, 100 Suns Elbo Room. 9pm, $5.
Goldfrapp Fillmore. 8pm, $22.50.
"Local Spotlight" Plush Room. 8pm, free.
Gary Louris and Mark Olson Great American Music Hall. 8pm, $25.
Sean Smith, Liam Carey, John Courage Knockout. 8pm, $5.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Bishop Norman Williams Quintet Les Joulins Jazz Bistro. 8pm.
Contemporary Jazz Orchestra Jazz at Pearl's. 8:30 and 10:30pm, $5-10.
Barry Finnerty Savanna Jazz. 9pm, free.
Mike Greensill, Ruth Davies Moose's. 7:30pm.
Eric Shifrin Washington Square Bar and Grill. 7pm.
Lavay Smith, Allen Smith Enrico's. 7pm.

BAY AREA

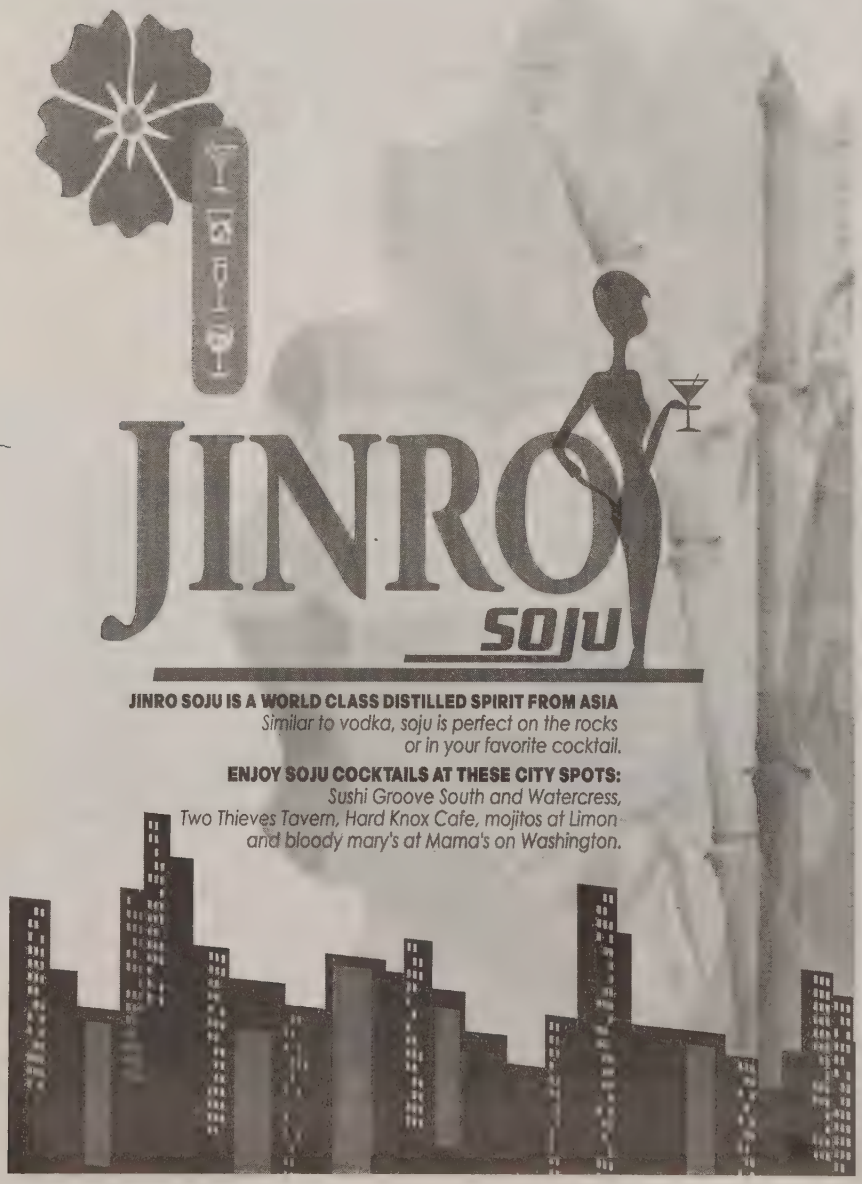
Julius Melendez Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $6-10.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Toshio Hirano Amnesia. 8pm, free.

DANCE CLUBS

Brigitte Bardot Hush Hush Lounge. 8pm-2am, $2.



MIGHTY
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WednesdayMay3rd 9pm
The San Francisco Film Festival Presents
ADDICTIVE TV
w/ Rawkshow and VJON

Thursday May 4th 10pm
EGGS
Frivolous Live! Strategy
Sutekh
w/ Safety Scissors
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Friday May 5th 10pm
Sunset Promotions & The Fringe Present
FREQO DE MAYO
feat BASSNECTAR
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Motion Potion
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Saturday May 6th 10pm
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Marques Wyatt
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5/12: Stompy
5/19: Mighty Breaks
5/26: The Onion 1 Year Anny
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Indie remixes and more.
Caña Little Baobab, 3388 19th St; 643-3558 10pm-2am, $3. Reggaeton, dancehall, and more with DJ Joe Quixx.
Club Camille Beauty Bar. 9pm-2am. Rock 'n' roll
Club Dread StudioZ. 10pm-3am, $5, women free before 11:30pm. Reggae and dancehall
Club Fresh The Cafe, 2367 Market; 861-3846. 8pm-2am, $2. Gay and lesbian hip-hop club.
Club Neon Make-Out Room. 10pm. Rock, hip-hop, funk, soul, disco, electro, and indie with DJs Jamie Jams, Emdee, Little Melanie, Aidan, Nadine, and guests.
Club Unicornio Casanova Lounge. 9pm, free. Contemporary Spanish language punk, electro, mambo rock, and more with DJs Luis and Julio.
Dance Oasis African American Art and Culture Complex, 762 Fulton; 424-4897. 7pm, $10. Merengue, bachata, salsa, and cumbia lessons.
Death Guild Glas Kat. 9:30pm-2:30am, $3-5. Children of the Twilight Guild present this dark dance club.
Falling Down Mondays Milk. 9pm, $3-5. Skate videos and classic '80s hits with DJs B-Case, Julia, Rooster, Webb, Satva, Ross Hogg, Toph One, and 4aM.
Grateful Dead Jams Nickie's BBQ. 9pm-2am. Dark Star Dan plays rare Grateful Dead tracks.
Harry Denton's Starlight Room Midnight, $5. With DJ Sammi.
High Rolling/Low Budget TunnelTop, 601 Bush; 986-8900. 9:30pm, free. Acid-jazz, soul, funk, ska, reggae, and house with DJ Hofwegen.
Lingba Lounge 8pm-midnight, free. Downtempo lounge beats with Bee Dub, Efrem, and Devlin
The Messaround! Annie's Social Club. 9pm, free. Soul, Motown, rock steady, and more; backroom karaoke.
Metal Mondays Play Bar, 101 Sixth St; 512-PLAY, www.playbarsf.com. 8pm-midnight. With KUSF Rampage Radio Dirty Sanchez
Monday Night Salsa Cafe Cocomo. 7:30pm, $3-7 Salsa lessons and dance party.
Native Wish, 1539 Folsom; 278-9474. 8pm-2am. Funk and soul with Supacreep and guests.
New Wave Punks in the Garage Argus Lounge. 9pm, free. New wave, punk, '80s with DJ Ref.
94117 Madrone Lounge. 6pm-midnight, free. Local art, music, and more.
Redwood Room 8pm-midnight. Jazz with Consuelo Kevin.
Sex, Sexx, and More Sexxx Delirium. 10pm-2am, free. Rock 'n' roll, hip-hop, and indie with Brett Wilde and DJ Luv.
Smile Knockout. 10pm. An indie club with live music with DJ Neil Martansen.
Smokestack Laszlo. 9pm. R&B, soul, and rock 'n' roll.
Tenancy in Common Madrone Lounge. 6pm-midnight, free. Electro, punk, disco, rock, and hip-hop with DJs Tola, Andrew, and others.
Vroom El Rio. 8pm-midnight, $3. Punk, funk, and soul.

BAY AREA

Kingman's Lucky Lounge 9pm-2am. With DJ Michael.
Noches de Vudu Luka's Taproom and Lounge, 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451- 4677. 9pm, free. Salsa, samba, reggaeton, and Latin hip-hop with DJ Erick Santero and rotating DJs

TUESDAY 9

ROCK/BLUES/HIP-HOP

Boy Sets Fire, Fully Down, Vs. the Mirror, Omissa, Tragedy Andy Pound-SF. 7pm, $10.
Colin and friends Ireland's 32. 9pm.
Devil Makes Three, Hillstomp Make-Out Room. 9pm, $6.
Drift, North America Hotel Utah Saloon. 9pm, $6.
Fat Tuesday Band Biscuits and Blues. 9pm, $10.
Hope Chest, Venus Beltran, Foxtail Somersault, Sentinel Studio Z. 9pm, $3.
Juvenile, Bubba Sparxxx, Partners N Crime Fillmore. 8pm, $35.
Paul Manousos Bazaar Cafe. 7pm.
Mike Glendinning Band, Jag Kimo's. 9pm, $5.
Nine Black Alps Cafe du Nord. 9:30pm, $10.
Plum, Hope Chest, Venus Beltran, Invisible Cities Studio Z. 8pm, $3.
Slow Music Great American Music Hall. 8pm, $25.
Starlight Mints, dios, Octopus Project Bottom of the Hill. 9pm, $10.

BAY AREA

Steve Freund Trio Ivy Room. 9:30pm, $5.

JAZZ/NEW MUSIC

Jules Broussard, Bing Nathan, Ned Boynton Enrico's. 7pm.
Cecil Wells Quintet Les Joulins Jazz Bistro. 8pm
Mike Greensill, Chuck Bennett Moose's. 7pm.
Jazz Mafia Tuesdays 12 Galaxies. 9pm, $6
Paul Kimura Bistro Clement, 127 Clement; 387-6966. 6pm.
Miles Ahead Figaro Ristorante, 414 Columbus; 398-1300. 7:30pm.
Ray Skjelbred, Robert Stewart Experience Pier 23. 5pm, free.

Ricardo Scales Top of the Mark. 7pm, $5.
Stompy Jones Verdi Club, 2424 Mariposa; www.old-timey.net/tuesdays.html. 9pm, $12.

BAY AREA

Carmen Lundy, Bobby Watson Yoshi's. 8 and 10pm, $12-20.
"Jazzschool Tuesdays" Jupiter. 8pm, free.

FOLK/WORLD/COUNTRY

Boca do Rio Elbo Room. 9pm, $7.

BAY AREA

Sylvia Herold and Chuck Ervin Julie's Coffee and Tea Garden, 1223 Park, Alameda; (510) 865-2385. 7pm, free.
Motordude Zydeco Ashkenaz. 8:30pm, $9.

DANCE CLUBS

Argentine Tango Practica Metronome Dance Center. 9pm-midnight, $5.
Ay Karamba Salsa Glas Kat. 7:45pm-2am. Live salsa bands, Latin DJs, and dancing.
Backbeat Luna Lounge, 1192 Folsom; 626-6043, www.lunaloungesf.org. 10pm-2am, free. With Jugaknot, DeuceAce, Daeta, and guests.
Benders Bar and Grill 9pm. Metal with DJ Screaming Pnest
» **Bless Up** Milk. 9pm-2am, $5. With Jah Yzer, I-Vier, and Irie Dole.
» **Broke as Fuck** Element Lounge. 10pm-2am, $3 Hip-hop, dancehall, funk, and soul with DJs 4aM, Havoc, Ivry, and Centipede
» **Brownies for My Bitches** Harvey's, 500 Castro; 431-4278. 10pm-2am, $5. A dyke club featuring hip-hop and pop
Coco Loco Voda. 9pm-2am, free. Cuban, Brazilian, reggae, and tropical sounds with DJ Divemaster
Coco Rico Tunnel Top. 10pm-2am, free. Latin, Brazilian, and Caribbean rhythms with DJ Vanka, Don Bustamante, and guests.
Development AsiaSF. 10pm. Reference, Raygun, and Mykul Crane spin breakbeat and house.
Drunken Monkey Cat Club. 9pm, free. Rock and roll.
Elevator in the Brain Hotel Sublounge. 9pm-2am, free. Indie pop and rock with DJ Doublekick and guests
Exist Wish, 1539 Folsom; 278-9474. 9pm-2am, free. House, breaks, funk, and soul
Harry Denton's Starlight Room Midnight, $5. With DJ Sammi
The Headphone Mix Delirium. 10pm-2am, free. A rock 'n' roll party presented by Alabaster Adams and Miss Rye
Hold Yr Horses Aunt Charlie's Lounge, 133 Turk; www.auntcharlieslounge.com. 10pm-2am. Electro, nowave, '80s, '90s, hip-hop, disco punk, synth pop, and more with DJ Richard Oh!?
Hugger Mugger Lit. 9pm, free. With Forest Green, Andy W, and Clarity
Industrial Strength Dragon Bar, 473 Broadway; 834-9383. 9pm-2am, free. Hip-hop
Levende Lounge 5pm-2am, free. Downtempo and deep house
Lo-blo Arrow. 10pm-2am, free. Rock, pop, hip-hop, and more with Fletcher and guests
Madrone Lounge 6pm-2am, free. With DJ Centipede, Willow the Gaslamp Killer, rotating DJs Aspect McCarthy and Citizen Ten, and musical guests.
Neighborhood Night Argus Lounge. 9pm
Next Level Beauty Bar. 10pm-2am, free. Hip-hop, dance-rock, roller-skate jams, rock 'n' roll, post-punk, and more.
» **Nickie's BBQ** 9pm
World music.
» **Phuturo** Underground SF. 10pm-2am, $5. With Rando, 4Real, Genome, Raise, Microphone, and MC Duh.
Reel Fusion Anú, 43 Sixth St; 543-3505. www.anu-bar.com. 10pm-2am, free. House with InHouse Records.
Rock 'n' Roll Rodeo Butter. 9pm-2am, free. Garage, punk, classic rock, and glam with DJ Kid Jagger.
Rock Out Karaoke! Amnesia. 7:30pm. With Glenny Kravitz
Soul Afrique John Colins, 90 Natoma; 543-BARR, www.johncolins.com. 9pm-2am, free. R&B, soul, reggae, Latin, and soulful house with DJ Rascue and rotating residents Madison, Wizzkey, Marcella, and special guests.
Soul Fo' Real Club Six. 9pm-3am, $2. Live jazz, neo-soul, R&B, and spoken word open mic with DJ Dusty Crates.
» **Taboo** Pink, 2925 16th St; www.pinksf.com. 9pm-2am, $5. With David Harness.
Tightwad Tuesdays 26 Mix. 9pm, $3. Hip-hop, R&B, and club classics with Mark Spitz and special guests.
Trannyshack Stud. 10pm-3am. A drag show with hostess Heklina.
Trampy Tuesdays Skylark. 9pm-2am, free. '70s and '80s rock.

BAY AREA

Jazzmine Kingman's Lucky Lounge. 9pm, free. Jazz, soul, and rare grooves with DJ Jrs
Soul by the Pound Luka's Taproom and Lounge, 2221 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 451-4677. 8pm, free. Funk, soul, and classic hip-hop with DJs Riddm and Saurus. SFBG

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THURSDAY 5/4
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FRIDAY 5/5 (FillmoreFunkR&B) $8 (adv)
Oakland Soul & Fillmore Funk Legend
"STEPPIN"
Plus: "TRACORUM" (opens)
An Old-school, Dirty-SoulJazz, Horn & R3 Driven Collective featuring OSCAR MYERS on Trumpet, WIL BLADES on B3, Funky Drummer, Fatback Bassist, Sizzle Soul guitarist and screamin' lightning rifled Sax cat.

SATURDAY 5/6 (HipHopFunk) $10
Colorado & S.F. Funk Hip-Hop Soulgrov Double-Bill
"YO FLACO"
Plus: "MONOPHONICS"
Yo Flaco is an 8 piece hip-hop/jazz group consisting of trumpet, saxophone, keys, guitar, bass, drums, and two vocals emcees. "You'd swear Yo, Flaco! were straight outta The Mission, or at least the East Bay.

SUNDAY 5/7 (FunkSoulRocknRoll) FREE
No Cover Sundays Presents:
"KING SHABLING"
Egypt' 1 Funky Drummer Mos-Meddin brings his new thing together featuring members of the Push with the Funk-Soul-RocknRoll to turn you out on a solid groove..

MONDAY 5/8
CLOSED on MONDAYS

TUESDAY, 5/9 (Soul& Funk) $5
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WEDNESDAY, 5/10 (BrassFunk) $5 (adv)
"BRASS MAFIA"
feat. members of 'CANNONBALL' & 'JAZZ MAFIA'!
JOE COHEN (Saxes - Realistic, Shotgun Wedding, Zigaboo)/
ADAM THEIS (Trombone & Sousaphone - Realistic, Shotgun Wedding)/
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DJ RUEBEN

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KING of KINGS reggae sundays
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Mon 5/22	OPIE BELLAS
Tue 5/23	MEL MARTIN QUARTET
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Thu 5/25 Thru Sun 5/28	ROBBEN FORD BAND
Mon 5/29	YOSVANY TERRY
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SATURDAY • MAY 6 • 2PM
THE BELLRAYS
The Bellrays call their sound "Maximum Rock & Soul," which is as much a description of the heart that goes into their music as it is the music itself. Celebrating the release of *Have a Little Faith* — out May 2nd on Cheap Lullaby!

SUNDAY • MAY 7 • 2PM
THE COURT & SPARK
The Court & Spark mold a dreamy California sound with a rustic western vibe. Be sure to pick up their new record, *Hearts*, available May 2nd! Also catch their full set the following weekend at the GAMH on Friday, May 12th.

THURSDAY • MAY 11 • 6 PM
JEFFREY LUCK LUCAS
Jeffrey Luck Lucas creates music that is alternatively slow, cinematic, tragic, intensely lustful and lovely. "*Hell Then Divine* is an urban/country casino renaissance classically composed by a modern day virtuoso." — *Mesh Magazine*

FRIDAY • MAY 12 • 6 PM
THE AGGROLITES
This SoCal band reveals a deep love for rocksteady, ska and reggae and hits on an authentic blend of classic Jamacian music, influenced by Derrick Morgan and Jackie Mittoo. Live in support of their self-titled record out 5/9 on Hellcat!

SATURDAY • MAY 13 • 2PM
JOLIE HOLLAND
Jolie Holland has a voice that attempts to transcend the new and encompass the old through the medium of American music. Don't miss this San Francisco darling in a performance supporting her new album, *Springtime Can Kill You*, out May 9th!

SATURDAY • MAY 20 • 2 PM
BOBBY PREVITE
With Skerik, Marco Benevento (from the Benevento Russo Duo) and Charlie Hunter! Don't miss out on this amazing in-store performance! "Mr. Previte's pieces are thoroughly, stubbornly, and distinctly his own . . . the music copies nothing." — *The New York Times*

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For more festival info, visit fillmorejazzfestival.com.
For advertising opportunities in our program guide, contact 415-255-3100.

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An Evening with
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Tuesday, May 9 - Doors 7:30, Show 8
Slow Music
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Rainer Maria play Bottom of the Hill Thurs/4.
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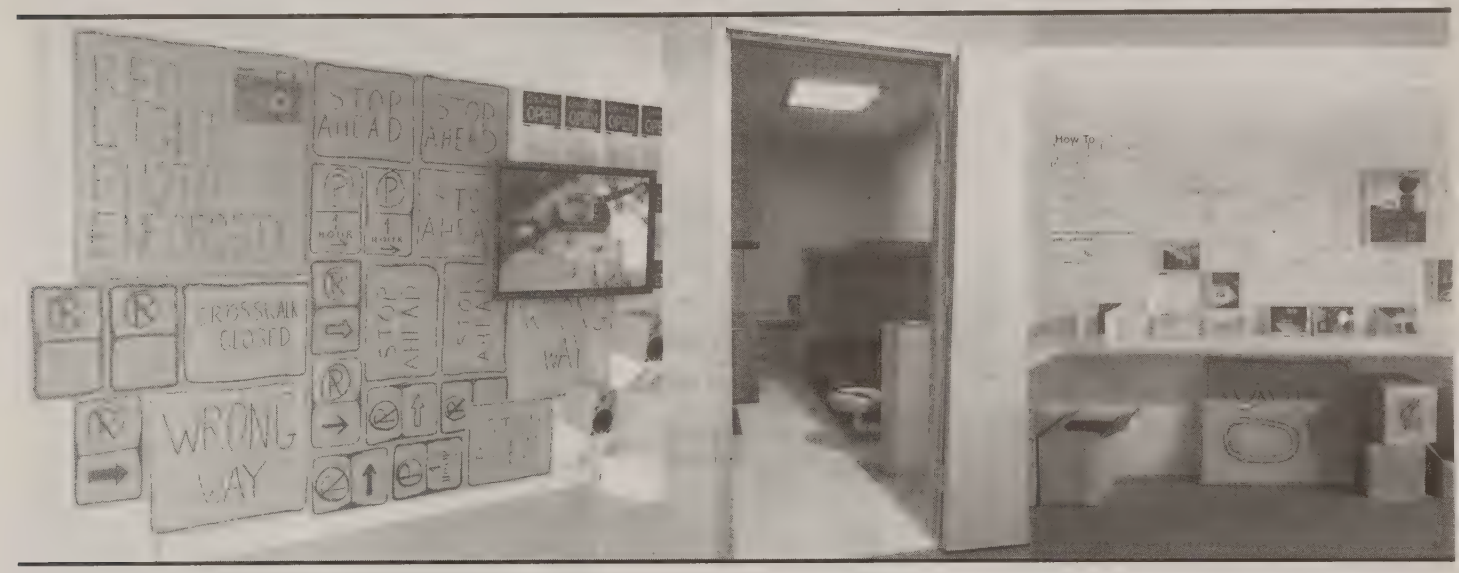
visual art

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts' "Peer Pleasure 2" looks at the politics of artist collectives, posting the knockoff signage of Red 76 (left); installing a replica of a currently incarcerated inmate, courtesy of Temporary Services (center); and probing the intersection of art, the law, and documentation in the work of Visible Collective (right).



Business as unusual

Artist collectives make the personal political in "Peer Pleasure 2"

By Katie Kurtz
› a&eletters@sfbg.com

"Peer Pleasure 2" concludes the thoughtfully assembled and intelligently executed series of artist collective exhibitions curated by Berin Golonu in the upstairs galleries of Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. The series began last fall with contributions by Hamburger Eyes, the Gestalt Collective, the Momentary Academy, Mail Order Brides, and Stretcher in "Bay Area Now 4." "Zine Unbound: Kults, Werewolves and Sarcastic Hippies" followed, focusing on the publications *Hot and Cold, K48,* and *Werewolf Express* and the collective activity of assembling and making a zine. Next, "Peer Pleasure 1" examined three collectives — Royal Art Lodge, Instant Coffee, and Space 1026 — that place social engagement at the center of their practices. The collectives in "Peer Pleasure 2" — Red 76, Temporary Services, and the Visible Collective — address politics in tandem with art-making. "Black Panther Rank and File," currently on view in the main gallery, provides a bit of historical grounding for the Visible Collective's installation and sets the tone for the installations by Temporary Services and Red 76.

Chicago's Temporary Services collective has integrated a deep sense of ethical responsibility into the production and dissemination of its work, an aspect of its methodology that was especially critical while developing *Prison Inventions.* One of members Brett Bloom's, Marc Fischer's, and Salem Collo-Julin's many ongoing projects, *Prison Inventions* is a collaboration with "Angelo," a currently incarcerated, pseudonymous inmate at a California state prison. Angelo provided TS with detailed descriptions and illustrations of prison-made objects that the collective then reproduced. Unlike artists, prisoners are forced into ingenuity — it doesn't simply arise out of a desire to be creative. The inmates' limited access to materials provides a basis for inventive alternatives to items we tend to take for granted: salt and pepper shakers, shelving, lighters, even drinking cups. "If some of what's presented here seems unimpressive, keep in mind that deprivation is a way of life in prison," Angelo writes in his overview of the project.

In order to demonstrate the conditions under which these objects are typically made, Angelo requested that TS construct a replica of his cell and include it in the installation. Visitors can enter the 6-by-12-foot cell, where everything is wall-mounted and made of metal: two bunks, a desk with a stool, two shelves, and a combined toilet and sink — for two men. Inventiveness begins to take on a new meaning in this light.

MAKING IT VISIBLE

The Visible Collective, of New York City, is directed by filmmaker, writer, and media activist Naeem Mohaiemen; members include Anandaroop Roy, Jeeyun Ha, Donna Golden, Vivek Bald, Aziz Huq, JT Nimoy, Sarah Olson, Aimara Lin, Anjali Malhorta, and Kristofer Dan-Bergman. Their project *Disappeared in America* is an ongoing chronicle of the effects post-9/11 governmental policies have had on immigrants, particularly those the government deems potential terrorists.

The work in the show represents the intersection of art, documentation, and legal explanation and draws parallels to past efforts of institutionalized racism that serve as predecessors to the USA PATRIOT Act — the House Committee on Un-American Activities, COINTELPRO, and Japanese American internment during World War II. The blurry photographic portraits with overlaid text in *when an interpreter could not be found* seek to make visible the people who have been harassed in order to "protect" our homeland security. Other work in the installation outlines the specific policies and court cases that reinforce the government's right to perform surveillance and to unlawfully detain people. These days, knowledge most definitely is power.

UN-RED

It's impossible to not read Portland, Ore., collective Red 76's contribution in relation to the others', and in this context, it fails miserably for lack of trying. The installation is slapdash, with hand-scrawled explanations and arrows pointing to piles of stuff for people to take. This carelessness is matched by banal content, and the projects are all politics-lite: Political karaoke and cardboard road signs aren't exactly high-stakes activism. There's no sense that the collective has critically explored the myriad potential ways art can deeply and meaningfully impact people beyond its members' social spheres. One hopes their exposure to the work in the rest of the exhibit will help them raise the stakes and examine what it means to make politically engaged art right now.

In the end, TS's installation isn't just about prison-made objects, and the Visible Collective's work isn't just about the people profiled — both are thoughtful and thorough investigations into specific overlooked, ignored, and unfathomable parts of our society. Their work points to the fact that it's difficult to absorb the fact that these events continue to happen today, *this* second. A viewer begins to wonder, what has created the conditions for these things to be made in the first place? And what needs to happen in order for prison-made objects and portraits of disappeared people *not* to exist? SFBG

PEER PLEASURE 2:
RED 76, TEMPORARY SERVICES, AND THE VISIBLE COLLECTIVE
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www.disappeareddinamerica.org

"The Man Box and Beyond"

ONE OF THOUSANDS BY EHREN TOOL

REVIEW Postfeminism — which is not the death of feminism so much as an effort to examine how culture creates gender differences in terms of how femininity and masculinity are defined — is a good place to start when thinking about the work included in "The Man Box and Beyond." The exhibition was inspired in part by an exercise from the Oakland Men's Project, a violence-prevention program that asks men how they feel when they're expected to "act like a man." The 15 participants in this show approach and extend this question through a range of responses from the humorous to the serious. Perhaps the most compelling response is *Hand to Hand,* a large, wall-mounted installation by Ehren Tool of ceramic mugs with photo-transferred imagery and text related to war. The material is culled from different sources and represents the various ways war imagery shows up in our culture. All the mugs are unique and feature skulls, gas masks, insane quotes by President George W. Bush ("I just want you to know that when we are talking about war, we're really talking about peace"), naked women holding assault weapons, naked men in military hats holding their cocks, people with their faces blown off, children who have been disfigured by war, and on and on. The mugs also have images of the artist, a former marine, and his family members who have served in the military. By locating himself in the crosshairs of war's absurdity, Tool critiques himself and his identity, which has been both handed down to him and constructed by others. "People need to see this stuff with their coffee," is how Tool explained his project to me. To that end, the artist has given away 6,000 mugs — some of which have been mailed unsolicited — to politicians and other people in positions of government and corporate power. Deconstructing masculinity: one mug at a time. **(Katie Kurtz)**

THE MAN BOX AND BEYOND Through Sat/6. Wed.–Sat., 1–6 p.m.

Closing reception Sat/6, 5–7 p.m.

The Lab, 2948 16th St., SF. (415) 864-8855, www.thelab.org

Art listings are compiled by Sarah Han. Because of space limitations, new art shows are listed the week they open (thereafter, shows are listed on a rotating basis). For information on how to submit listings to this section, see Picks, page 28. For complete listings go to www.sfbg.com.

MUSEUMS

Asian Art Museum 200 Larkin; 581-3500, www.asianart.org. Tues-Sun, 10am-5pm (Thurs, 10am-9pm). $10 ($5 Thurs after 5pm), $7 seniors, $6 for 12 to 17, free for 11 and under. **"From the Fire: Contemporary Korean Ceramics."** One hundred eight works by 54 Korean ceramic artists. **"The Elegant Gathering: The Yeh Family Collection"** Eighty works of Chinese calligraphy and painting from the Yeh collection. Through May 21. **"The Three Gorges Project."** Paintings by Liu Xiaodong. Through July 16.

California Palace of the Legion of Honor Lincoln Park (near 34th Ave and Clement); 863-3330. Tues-Sun, 9:30am-5pm. $8, $6 seniors, $5 for ages 12 to 17, free for 10 and under (free Tues). **"After the Ruins, 1906 and 2006: Rephotographing the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire."** Forty-six lucent photographs and four panoramas that pair vintage images of the aftermath of the 1906 earthquake with modern renderings of the sites by Mark Klett. Through June 4.

Cartoon Art Museum 655 Mission; CAR-TOON. Tues-Sun, 11am-5pm. $6, $4 students and seniors, $2 for 6 to 12, free for members and children 5 and under. **"Small Press Spotlight: Gene Yang."** Works by comics artist Yang. Through Sun/7. **"No Straight Lines: Queer Culture and the Comics."** An exhibition devoted to GLBT comics. Through June 25. **"Earthquake!!!"** Two dozen local cartoonists reflect on Bay Area earthquakes. Through June 25. **"Cartoon Tunes: Capturing Music in Comics."** An exhibition on the connection between comics and music (reception Tues/9, 7-9pm). May 9-Oct 15. See Picks, page 28.

Museum of Craft and Folk Art 51 Yerba Buena Lane; 227-4888, www.mocfa.org. Tues-Fri, 11am-6pm; Sat-Sun, 11am-5pm. $4-5. **"Circles Unbroken: Four Generations of African American Quilt-makers."** Eighteen quilts by four women from one Texas quilt-making family. May 4-July 23.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art 151 Third St; 357-4000. Fri-Tues, 11am-5:45pm; Thurs, 11am-8:45pm. $12.50, $8 seniors, $7 students, free for 12 and under and members (free first Tues; half price Thurs, 6-8:45pm). **"The Surreal Calder."** Rarely seen works by Calder and his peers. Through May 21. **"Beyond Real: Surrealist Photography and Sculpture from Bay Area Collections."** More than 200 works. Through May 21. **"1906 Earthquake: A Disaster in Pictures."** More than 100 vintage photographs of the earthquake that hit the San Francisco Bay Area. Through May 30. **"New Work: Tim Gardner, Marcelino Gonçalves, Zak Smith."** New work by the three artists. Through Sept 5. **Contemporary rock poster art.** Twenty-six rock posters by design studio Urban Inks and artist Rex Ray as part of the SFMOMA's ongoing exhibition "The Art of Design: The Architecture and Design Collection." May 4-Sept 5.

Yerba Buena Center for the Arts 701 Mission; 978-ARTS. Tues-Wed, and Fri-Sun, noon-5pm; Thurs, noon-8pm. $6, $3 seniors, students and youths, free for members (free first Tues). **"Black Panther Rank and File."** An exhibition of rare artifacts, documentary photographs and film, and contemporary art on the Black Panther Party and the Black Power movement. Through July 2. **"Peer Pleasure 2: Red76, Temporary Services and Visible Collective."** An exhibit focusing on works by three artist groups that deal with the dissemination of information and explore activism: Red76 (Portland and Chicago), Temporary Service (Chicago), and Visible Collective (New York). Through July 2.

BAY AREA

Oakland Museum of California 1000 Oak, Oakl; (510) 238-2200. Wed-Fri, 10am-5pm; Sat, 10am-8pm; Sun, noon-6pm (first Fri, 10am-9pm). $8, $5 seniors and students (free second Sun). **"Behind the Magic - 50 Years of Disneyland."** Art and artifacts from Disneyland. May 6-Aug 20.

UC Berkeley Art Museum 2626 Bancroft Way, Berk; (510) 642-0808. Wed and Fri-Sun, 11am-5pm; Thurs, 11am-7pm. $4-8 (free first Thurs). **"Dreaming California: Ruth Marion-Baruch, Bill Owens, and Larry Sultan."** Photographs by the three Bay Area photographers on the theme of the California dream. Through May 21. **"Now-Time Venezuela, Part 1: Worker-Controlled Factories."** A multiscreen project by Dario Azzellini and Oliver Ressler. Through May 28.

GALLERIES

OPENING

111 Minna Gallery 111 Minna; 974-1719. Tues-Fri, noon-5pm; Sat-Mon, by appt. "Portraits from the Belly of the Whale," works by Michael Garlington; "The PhotoBooth Across America," works by Christopher Irion (reception Thurs/4, 5pm-2am). May 4-26.

Andrea Schwartz Gallery 525 Second St; 495-2090. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm; Sat, 1-5pm. "The Sensual Memory," paintings by Lori del Mar (reception Wed/3, 5:30-7:30pm). May 3-June 16.

Arspace 1286 Folsom; 621-4438. Sat, 9pm-1am (May 27, 6-9pm). "Night Gallery," an exhibit inspired by Rod Serling's television show of the same name, featuring works by Paul Madonna, Nathan Stapley, the Love Bandits, and Hannah Stouffer. May 6-27.

Artist-Xchange 3169 16th St; 864-1490. Mon-Fri, noon-9pm; Sat, 10am-9pm; Sun, 10am-8pm. New works by various Bay Area artists (reception Fri/5, 7-10pm). May 5-31.

Creativity Explored 3245 16th St; 863-2108. Mon-Fri, 10am-3pm; Sat, 11am-6pm. "Sacred Places," a group show featuring works by artists with developmental disabilities (reception Thurs/4, 7-9pm). May 4-June 15.

Dolby Chadwick 210 Post, Suite 205; 956-3560. Tues-Fri, 10am-6pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. Recent paintings by John DiPaolo (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-8pm). May 4-27.

Fifty24SF Fine Art Gallery 248 Fillmore; 571-0187. Thurs-Sun, noon-3pm. "Vossia," new paintings and drawings by Herbert Baglione (reception Thurs/4, 7-9:30pm). May 4-June 4.

Fraenkel Gallery 49 Geary, 981-2661. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. Works by Idris Khan. May 4-June 30.

Freddie Fong Contemporary Art 760 Market, No. 258; 391-6133. Tues-Fri, 11am-3pm, and by appt. Recent works by Jaeim Yoon (reception Thurs/4, 5-7pm). May 5-26.

Galería de la Raza 2857 24th St; 826-8009. Wed-Sat, noon-6pm. "Illegal Entry," works by five California artists on the US-Mexico border (reception Sat/6, 7:30pm). May 6-June 24.

Gallery Paule Anglim 14 Geary; 433-2710. Tues-Fri, 10am-5:30pm; Sat, 10am-5pm. New work by Deborah Butterfield (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). May 4-June 10.

Hackett-Freedman 250 Sutter, fourth floor; 362-7152. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. "The Pursuit of Form," studio figures and landscape paintings by Terry St. John (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). May 4-June 24.

Hang 556 Sutter; 434-4264. Mon-Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "Being There," works by Catherine Ryan (reception Thurs/4, 6-8pm). Through May 30.

Hang Annex 567 Sutter; 544-0610. Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm. "Alternate Realities," a group show of paintings and mixed-media works (reception Thurs/4, 6-8pm). Through May 30.

Intersection for the Arts 446 Valencia; 626-2787. Wed-Sat, noon-5pm; Tues, by appt. "Disrupted: A Photographic Installation about Memory, History and War," works by Binh Danh and Elizabeth Moy (reception Wed/3, 6-9pm). May 3-June 17.

JAG's Art Studio at the Beach 2366 48th Ave; 716-3004. Sat-Sun, 11am-6pm. "Spring Art Show," works by Judi Gorski, Kelcie Tinker, and Marilyn Warden. Sat/6-Sun/7.

Jenkins Johnson Gallery 464 Sutter; 677-0770. Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm. "Timeless, Light, and Shadow," works by Z.z. Wi (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). May 4-27.

Latino-Hispanic Room San Francisco Main Library, lower level, 100 Larkin; 557-4277. "Black Artists' Expressions of Father," an exhibit paying tribute to Black fatherhood. May 6-June 29.

Lexington Club 3464 19th St; 863-2052. Daily, 3pm-2am. "Iconic," new works by Teri Claude (reception Tues/9, 7-9pm). May 9-June 15.

Meridian Gallery 545 Sutter; 398-7229. Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm. "Tenth Annual Meridian Interns Exhibition," works by Meridian Gallery interns (reception Fri/5, 6pm). May 5-14.

Oxygen Bar Sushi Club 795 Valencia; 255-2102. "Foto2," an accidental photography show featuring works by Deborah Lattimore, Ojo Blanco, John Curley, Fotogail, and others (reception Fri/5, 8pm). Through May 28.

Pier 23 Cafe Pier 23, The Embarcadero; 362-5125, www.pier23cafe.com. Paintings by Ann Curran Turner (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). May 4-June 5.

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art Artists Gallery Fort Mason, Bldg A, Marina at Laguna; 441-4777. Tues-Sat, 11:30am-5:30pm. Thirteenth annual artists warehouse sale. Wed/3, (6-9pm); Thurs/4-Fri/5, (noon-8pm); Sat/6, noon-5:30pm; Sun/7, noon-4pm, free.

San Francisco Psychoanalytic Institute and Society 2420 Sutter; 563-4477. "An Evening of Art II," works that pay tribute to Sigmund Freud's 150th birthday (reception Thurs/4, 6-9pm). May 5-14.

Southern Exposure 401 Alabama; 863-2141. Tues-Sat, 11am-5pm. "Momentum," Southern Exposure's annual spring fundraiser and art auction. Sat/6, 7:30-11pm, $30-65.

Space Gallery 1141 Polk; 377-3325. "ArtCollision," works by 17 international artists (reception Fri/5, 7pm-midnight). Fri/5-Sun/7.

Steven Wolf Fine Arts 49 Geary, Suite 411; 263-3677. Tues-Sat, 11:30am-5:30pm. "International Waters," a group show (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). May 4-June 23.

Urbis Artium Gallery 49 Geary, second floor; 369-9404, www.urbis-artium.com. Tues-Fri, 10am-5pm; Sat, 11:30am-5pm. "Caesurae," group show (reception Wed/3, 5:30-8pm). Through June 2.

BAY AREA

Arts and Consciousness Gallery John F. Kennedy University, Berkeley Campus, 2956 San Pablo, second floor, Berk; (510) 649-0499. Mon-Fri, 11am-6pm. "Dice entre las Piernas," works by Leah Libow (reception May 13, 4-7pm). May 9-24.

Boontling Gallery 4224 Telegraph, Oakl; (707) 980-1060. Sat-Sun, noon-5pm. New work by Ben Belknap and Crystal Morey (reception Fri/5, 7-10:30pm). May 5-28.

Dèsa Arts 4810 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 595-1669. Paintings by I Madè Moja (reception Sat/6, 4-7pm). May 6-July 6.

Erica Tanov 1827 Fourth St, Berk; (510) 849-3331. New paintings by Mariana Garibay R (reception Wed/3, 6-9pm). Through May 31.

Mama Buzz Gallery 2316 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 465-4073. Mon-Thurs, 7am-9pm; Fri, 7am-10pm; Sat, 8am-10pm; Sun, 8am-9pm. "Weird Science," new paintings by Lisa Ostapinski (reception Fri/5, 7-10pm). May 5-26.

Rock Paper Scissors Gallery 2278 Telegraph, Oakl; (510) 238-9171. Wed-Mon, 11am-7pm. "The Most Beautiful Sunset That You've Ever Seen," a site-specific, installation-based show featuring works by Mark Taylor, Nathaniel Russell, Nate Crane, and Caleb Rogers (reception Fri/5, 6-10pm). May 5-26.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 56»

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415.344.8800 | www.thecjm.org

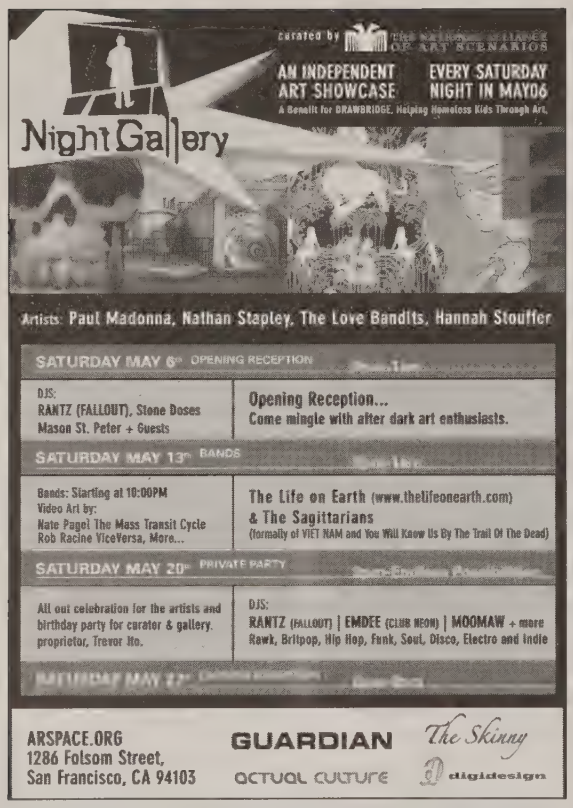
Open Sun-Thurs, 12-6

Free gallery tours Sun & Wed at 12:30

Art of Living: Contemporary Photography and Video from the Israel Museum is organized by the Israel Museum for The Contemporary Jewish Museum. The exhibition is made possible through major support from the Helen Diller Family Traveling Exhibition Fund with additional generous support from the Koret Foundation, a grant from the Alexander M. and June L. Maisin Foundation of the Jewish Community Federation's Endowment Fund, Eta and Sass Somekh; an anonymous donor, Rosanne and Al Lewit, Chana Schreyer, Fraenkel Gallery, Consulate General of Israel to the Pacific Northwest, Joyce Linker, and Ruth Stern

Image: Amon Yariv, *Window to the East* (detail), 2005, Lent by the artist, Tel Aviv

BRING THIS AD FOR 2-FOR-1 ADMISSION



GALLERIES

CONT.>>

Swarm Studios 560 Second St, Oakl; www.swarmstudios.net. Tues-Sun, 11am-5pm, and by appt. "Re:Form," works by Gregg Fleishman. May 6-June 18.

ONGOING

2223 Restaurant and Bar 2223 Market; 431-0692. Daily, 5:30-10pm. Works by Zoe Martell. Through Fri/5.

Academy of Art University Galleries 79 New Montgomery; www.academyart.edu. Mon-Sat, 9am-6pm. "Group Show," works by Tyler Smith and multimedia installations by Aram Baker (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). Through May 12. 625 Sutter; 274-2229. Mon-Sat, 8:30am-5:30pm. "BFA Group Show," works by Melissa Mattis and Patsy Tayler (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). Through May 30. 688 Sutter; 931-5892. Mon-Sat, 8:30am-5:30pm. "Group Show," paintings by Lan Ting Qui and sculptures by Alexandra Ostrosf (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). Through June 1.

Ampersand International Arts 1001 Tennessee; 285-0170. Thurs-Fri, 11am-5pm, and by appt. "Open Network: Brooklyn," a group show curated by Patricia Maloney. Through Sun/7.

Anja van Ditmarsch Gallery 1732 Leavenworth; 885-2007. Thurs-Sat, 4-7pm, and by appt. Street photographs by Juan Buhler. Through Thurs/4.

Bucheon 389 Grove; 863-2891. Wed-Sat, 11am-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "An Accident of Free Will," works by Jake Klotz and Steve MacDonald. Through May 10.

Catharine Clark 49 Geary, second floor; 399-1439. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5:30pm. Works by Felipe Dulzaides and Packard Jennings. Through Sat/6.

Crown Point Press 20 Hawthorne; 974-6273. Tues-Sat, 10am-6pm. New etchings by Mary Heilmann; "Spring Group Show," etchings by various artists (reception Fri/5, 6-8pm). Through May 30.

Crucible Steel 2050 Bryant; 648-7562. Daily, 10am-10pm. "Ouija, Ouija, on the Wall," works by Liz Maher, Shannon Badiee, Tori Kayal, Stephanie Chambers, Alexis Knowlton, Jess Wainer, Katie Vida, and Suzanne Geneste de Besme. Through Thurs/4.

Giant Robot SF 622 Shrader; 876-GRSF. "Sea Ghost," new work by Deth P. Sun. Through May 24.

Haines 49 Geary, fifth floor; 397-8114. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 10:30am-5pm. "Sweet Earth," works by Joel Sternfeld; "Do You Have 30 Seconds and Can You Get Your Finger Dirty?," works by Nigel Poor. Through Sat/6.

Heather Marx Gallery 77 Geary, second floor; 627-9111. Tues-Fri, 10:30am-5:30pm; Sat, 11am-5pm. "Davis and Davis: Climates of Deception/Planet X," two multimedia project by LA collaborative duo, Davis and Davis (reception Thurs/4, 5:30-7:30pm). Through May 27.

Herbst International Exhibition Hall 385 Moraga, Presidio; www.ppaf-sf.org. Mon-Fri, 9:30am-3:30pm; Sat-Sun. 10am-4pm. "2006 Dancing Across Cultures," theatrical costumes from the Presidio Dance Theatre's international collection. Through Mon/8.

James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin, third floor; 557-4400. Mon, 10am-6pm; Tues-Thurs, 9am-8pm; Fri, noon-6pm; Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "Art of Fact: The Human Remains, the Art of Dan Pillers," mixed media site-specific installation by Pillers. Through Thurs/4.

Japan Information Center 50 Fremont, Suite 2200; 777-3533. Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm (closed between noon and 1). "Icons Amplified: Living Traditions in Modern Japan," photographs by TJ Wagner. Through Fri/5.

The Lab 2948 16th St; 864-8855. Wed-Sat, 1-6pm. "The Man Box and Beyond," an exhibit about masculinity and male identity (closing reception Sat/6, 5-7pm). Through Sat/6. See pick box.

Market Street Kiosks along Market Street between Van Ness and Embarcadero; www.sfgov.org/sfac/pubart. "Before and After the Earthquake," photographs by Abner Nolan. Through May 11.

Newmark Gallery 251 Post, No. 412; 392-3692. Tues-Sat, 11am-6pm, and by appt. "I Wish I Were the Night," abstract paintings by Gilles Combet. Through Sat/6.

Playspace Gallery California College of the Arts, 1111 Eighth St, second floor; 551-9213, www.cca.edu. Tues-Sat, noon-6pm. "Self-Propelled," works by Renee Gertler, Tammy Kim, and Carrie Minikel. Through Wed/3.

RayKo Photo Center 428 Third St; 495-3773, www.raykophoto.com. "From Inside Eyes: The Ghana Youth Photo Project," more than 100 photographs shot by students mentored by Jamie Lloyd in Ghana (reception Sat/6, 5-7pm). Through July 2.

Shenson Memorial Gallery 900 Hyde; 353-6650. Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm. "The Best of San Francisco: People and Places," works by Grace Sevy. Through Fri/5.

Studio Gallery 1718A Polk; 931-3130. Wed-Fri, 11am-8pm; Sat-Sun, 11am-6pm. "Terrain," works that depict California landscapes and seascapes. Through May 14.

Tart 47 Lusk; 495-3475. Fri-Sat, 1-6pm, and by appt. "Affair," works by ten artists on the theme of the art fair. Through Sat/6.

Wattis Institute for Contemporary Arts Logan Galleries, 1111 Eighth St; 551-9210. Tues and Thurs, 11am-7pm; Wed, Fri-Sat, 11am-6pm. "Utopia, Utopia = One World, One War, One Army, One Dress," works by Thomas Hirschhorn. Through May 13.

BAY AREA

21 Grand 416 25th St, Oakl; (510) 444-7263. Thurs, 4-8pm; Fri, 4-6pm; Sat-Sun, 1-6pm. "Transpose," works by Steven Robert Barich and Dan Nelson (reception Fri/5, 7-10pm). Through May 21.

ACCI 1652 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 843-2527, www.accigallery.com. Mon-Fri, 11am-6pm; Sat, 10am-6pm; Sun, noon-5pm. "Remake/Remodel: Rebound," works by Clayton Bain, Dina Gewing, Kate Kerrigan, Dobee Snowber, and Edge Art Group. Through Thurs/4.

Blankspace 6608 San Pablo, Oakl; (510) 547-6608 Sat-Sun, noon-6pm, and by appt. "Twilight In the Valley," an installation by Tonya Solley Thornton. Through Sun/7.

Center for Art and Public Life California College of the Arts, 5275 Broadway, Oakl; (510) 594-3757. "Emerging Teachers: Making Learning Visible," works-in-progress from the Center's Art Education Teaching Practices course (reception Fri/5, 3:30-6pm). Through July 30.

George Kaye's 4141 Broadway, Oakl; www.johnsheridanart.com. "The Goddess Came From Beyond Space," collages and prints by John Sheridan (reception Fri/5, 7pm-2am). Through May 31.

Multicultural Center Martin Luther King Jr. Student Union Building, UC Berkeley, Bancroft at Telegraph, Berk; (510) 642-3065. "Identidades negadas," an exhibition about Haitian immigrants in the Dominican Republic. Through Fri/5.

Photolab 2235 Fifth St, Berk; (510) 644-1400. Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm; Sat, 10am-2pm. "Modulations of Light," color photographs by Sidney J.P. Hollister. Through Sat/6.

Robert Tomlinson Studio 25 Grand, Oakl; (510) 866-8808. "Wonders Never Cease," a group show featuring works by Chandra Cerritto, Bruno Karpf, Robert Tomlinson, Robert Welch, deWayne Harrison, and others (reception Fri/5, 6-9pm). Through May 31. SFBG

San Francisco Museum of Modern Art

Beyond Real: Surrealist Photography and Sculpture from Bay Area Collections

March 23–May 21

SFMOMA

151 Third Street San Francisco 415.357.4000
www.sfmoma.org

Man Ray. *Tears (Larmes)* (detail). 1933: Private collection; © Man Ray Trust/Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/ADAGP, Paris. *Beyond Real: Surrealist Photography and Sculpture from Bay Area Collections* is organized by the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and is generously supported by Carla Emil and Rich Silverstein.

Company Chaddick

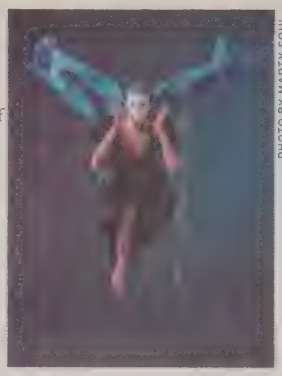


PHOTO BY MARTY SOHL

PREVIEW Cheryl Chaddick must be doing something right. If you have seen her work, you can see why audiences have been frequenting her company's performances for the past 21 years. There is no gimmick, no grandstanding, no bow to the latest fashion. She just makes dances — full-bodied, expressive, and readable. Some are funny, many are touching, a few are even ironic. Chaddick's dances are about us. She takes today's social and philosophical conundrums and teases lush, evocative, solid work from them. Her performers — many of whom come out of her popular classes at the San Francisco Dance Center, where Chaddick has taught for 15 years — look like real people. And they tend to stay with her for years. Jennifer Wright, one of the eight who make up the current ensemble, has been with her since the first season. For the site-specific *Landslide*, a world-premiere full-length work, the company headed for one of the city's newer venues, Danzhaus, because Chaddick saw the space's potential for choreographic invention. What got her going on *Landslide* was, as she says, the realization that "people and situations are like icebergs: We only see about a tenth of what is there — the rest is hidden underwater." **(Rita Felciano)**

COMPANY CHADDICK Through May 20. Fri.–Sat., 8 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Danzhaus, 1275 Connecticut, SF. $20. (415) 435-7569, www.companychaddick.org

Stage listings are compiled by Deborah Giattina. Performance times may change; call venues to confirm. Reviewers are Robert Avila, Rita Felciano, Karen McKevitt, and Lara Shalson. See Picks for information on how to submit items to the listings.

THEATER

OPENING

Devil on All Sides Traveling Jewish Theater, 470 Florida; (866) 468-3879, www.foolsfury.org. $12-30 (Thurs, pay what you can). Previews Thurs/4-Sat/6, 8pm. Opens Sun/7, 7pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. Through May 27. Foolsfury Theater Company presents French playwright Fabrice Melquiot's play set during the war in Yugoslavia.

Good Woman of Setzuan New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness; (415) 861-8972, www.nctcsf.org. $8-14. Opens Fri/5, 8pm. Runs Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. Through May 14. Stephanie Temple directs a cast of teens in Bertolt Brecht's play.

Roulette SF Playhouse, 536 Sutter; (415) 677-9596, www.sfplayhouse.org. $18-60. Previews Wed/3-Fri/5. Opens Sat/6. Runs Wed-Sat, 8 pm (also Sat, 3pm). Through June 10. The West Coast premiere of this comedy by Paul Weitz centers on a bored suburban dad who plays Russian roulette for excitement.

Twilight Zone: The Plays Dark Room Theater, 2263 Mission; (415) 401-7987, www.darkroomsf.com. $15. Opens Thurs/4, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through May 26. Multiple directors reach for the outer dimensions with stagings of classic episodes from the Rod Serling–narrated sci-fi TV show.

BAY AREA

King Lear The Ashby Stage, 1901 Ashby, Berk; (510) 841-6500, www.shotgunplayers.org. $15-30 (pay what you can during previews). Previews May 9-10, 8pm. Opens May 11, 8pm. Runs Thurs-Sun, 8pm. Through June 18. Shotgun players perform Shakespeare's play about a powerful dad and a daughter who refuses to kiss his ass.

ONGOING

The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee Post Street Theatre, 450 Post, second floor; 771-6900, www.ticketmaster.com. $40-66. Tues-Sat, 8pm (also Sat, 2pm; Wed, May 24, 2pm); Sun, 2 and 7pm. Open-ended. Bee here now, at last, as the Broadway hit musical parks its bleachers, superfluous basketball hoop, and gymnasium stage at the Post Street Theatre in a crowd-pleasing, brain-teasing West Coast premiere. Actually, brains aren't so much teased as tickled, more or less nonstop, by Rachel Sheinkin's Tony Award–winning book (after an original work conceived by Rebecca Feldman), William Finn's wonderfully inventive, ironical music and lyrics, and director James Lapine's outstanding, unflappable cast of adolescent and grown-up misfits, megalomaniacs, and weirdos. There can only be one winner amid all the juvenile jousting at the Putnam County spell-off, but rest assured that every runner-up — including the admirable audience participants selected at the start of the show — gets an exit to make an American Idol seethe with jealousy. (Avila)

A Number Geary Theater, 415 Geary; 749-2228, www.act-sf.org. $12-46. Opening May 3, 8pm. Runs Tues-Sat, 8pm (except May 9, 7pm); Wed, Sat, Sun, 2pm (except no matinees April 30, May 3, and May 14). Through May 28. The American Conservatory Theater presents a West Coast premiere of Caryl Churchill's futuristic tale about family life in the age of genetic engineering, directed by Anna D. Shapiro of Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

DIVAfest 2006 Exit Theatre, 156 Eddy; 673-3847, www.theexit.org. $12-20, $35 (all-show pass). Through May 6. The annual festival features new plays by local women playwrights. See online schedule for times and dates of performances. The word *diva* probably conjures more images of Bette Midler or drag queens than a group of earnest local female artists, but then, what's art if it can't throw preconceptions into question? We caught only two of eight festival acts. Liebe Wetzel and Lunatique Fantastique presents their latest found-object puppetry show, *Beauty and the Breast*. This charming and heartbreaking piece follows a purple bra through her journey with breast cancer, where seemingly ordinary objects like gardening tools suddenly transform into doctors, and plucked rose petals represent hair lost to chemotherapy. LunFan excels at creating sympathetic characters — imagine crying over a leopard-print bra. *Beauty* is also an artistic leap for the company — the object manipulators themselves have become characters instead of remaining "invisible" under black clothes and hoods. As LunFan experiments in this new terrain, its challenge will be not to lose its uniqueness — actors cannot elicit the same kind of audience response and emotions that objects can. Switching back to actor-centered theater, Sarah McKereghan's *Guns and Ammunition* may remind you of your last family reunion from hell. But this reunion takes place in a hospital waiting room, as the female relatives of a man who was shot in a robbery await news of his predicament. The stress prompts the women to figuratively litter the stage with dirty laundry and petty resentments. If you can relate to these women, witnessing their fights is akin to listening to fingernails on a chalkboard, which is probably a testament to McKereghan's writing and Carol Flanagan's spot-on performance as the classic loudmouthed, overbearing mother-in-law, a diva in her own mind. (McKevitt)

Don Q Noh Space 2840 Mariposa; 621-7978, www.theatreofyugen.org.$13-25. Thurs-Sat, 8 pm. Through May 13. Clown artist James Wilson plays the errant knight in this staging of Miguel de Cervantes's classic tale.

Edge Phoenix Theatre, 414 Mason, sixth floor; (415) 989-0023. $20-25 (previews, Thurs, and Sun are pay what you can). Sun/7, 8pm. Phoenix Arts Association Theater and elastic future present the world premiere of Jennifer Williams's dystopian apartment drama, set in a not-too-distant American future. The tenants of the ramshackle building (ably crafted by Megan Fenton and Alfred Pollack) include a spastic recluse, the Insomniac (Linda Ayres-Frederick), tapping compulsively into the info stream via a homemade computer and muttering dire conclusions to herself; the Man on the Top Floor (Catz Forsman), a damaged loner recently released from a torture session with the authorities; and the Singer (Lisa Marie Newton), a brassy working girl who croons along to old jazz songs as consolation for having to service vile members of the theocratic state. Meanwhile, state TV (some nicely produced but only semifunny video segments projected onto the entire back wall) beams the Announcer's (Dennis McIntyre) boob-tube propaganda in a mix of evangelical Big Brotherism and avid advertising. Under Evren Odcikin's keen direction, it's a well-drawn, well-acted, occasionally forced but humorous and genuinely menacing satirical drama of the apocalyptic present. By completion of the play's intriguing but underdeveloped 60 minutes, however, it feels more like a promising beginning — to the end. (Avila)

Fame Becomes Me Curran Theatre, 445 Geary; 512-7770, www.shnsf.com, www.ticketmaster.com. $30-90. Previews Wed/3-Sun/7, 8pm. Opens Tues/9, 8pm. Tues-Sat, 8pm; Wed, Sat-Sun, 2pm. Through May 21. Martin Short performs in an autobiographical musical he conceived with *Hairspray* musical directors Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman.]

Farewell to the Tooth Fairy Off Market Theatre, 965 Mission; 646-0776, (650) 355-4296, www.goldstarevents.com; $20. Sun, 7pm. Through May 28.Comedian Lynn Ruth Miller performs her one-woman show.

Happiness Marsh, 1062 Valencia; 1-800-838-3006, www.themarsh.org. $22. Extended run: Sat, 8pm. Through May 27. Rick Reynolds *(Only the Truth Is Funny)* performs a workshop version of his new solo show.

Hijra New Conservatory Theatre Center, 25 Van Ness; 861-8972, www.nctcsf.org. $22-34. Extended run: Wed-Sat, 8pm (except no show May 19); Sun, 2pm. Through May 21. Andrew Nance directs Ash Kotak's play about a young Indian man who attempts to marry his boyfriend by having him pass as a woman.

Island of Animals Thick House, 1695 18th St; 401-8081, www.goldenthread.org. $10-30, Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 5pm. Through May 14 (also Park Cinema, 37411 Fremont, Fremont. Runs May 26-28). In this beautifully realized staging of a tenth-century Islamic fable, a set of castaways, men drawn from the various nations of the world, survives shipwreck on a lush and harmonious island only to decide its riches are their rightful due. Chafing under the yoke of human domination, the animals of the island bring their case for freedom and dignity before the just and wise King of the Jinn, who presides over The Case of Animals versus Man. Golden Thread Productions partners with the Afghan Coalition and Ballet Afsaneh for an inspired theatrical adaptation of a story by Ikhwan al-Safa (the Brethren of Purity), a group of learned men drawn from Ismaili Muslim philosophers in Basra, Iraq. Animated by a spirited and lithesome ensemble cast (including members of Ballet Afsaneh), and a breathtaking storybook design scheme by Kate Boyd (augmented by Mayu McCartt's excellent costumes), director Hafiz Karmali's eye-catching production is a family-friendly menagerie with real philosophical meat on it. Its humor, compassion, and insight come forward in a winning mix of western and eastern theatrical styles, undersconing a universal theme—reverence for the sanctity of all life—whose enduring relevance could hardly be more palpable. (Avila)

Mack and Mabel Eureka Theatre, 215 Jackson; 978-9933, www.42ndstmoon.org. $20-38. Wed-Fri, 8pm; Sat, 6pm; Sun, 3pm. Through May 7. Broadway and early Hollywood compound their magic as 42nd Street Moon presents Jerry Herman's lively and touching 1974 musical about the stormy silent-film era romance between storied Keystone Studios founder, benign despot, and king of screen comedy Mack Sennett (Bill Fahrner) and Keystone's star actress Mabel Normand (Cindy Goldfield) — a reimagining neatly couched as narrator and professional illusion-maker Mack's prerogative: What's life for if an artist can't change it? Director Dyan McBride and her excellent cast (led by two deft, charismatic performances from Goldfield and 42nd Street veteran Fahrner) spin quite an illusion themselves, vividly bringing forward the musical's full charm with little more than a few chairs, a table, their songbooks (the badge of the "staged concert" format), and Loran Watkins's festive period costuming. Herman's score (smoothly supplied by musical director Dave Dobrusky) floats along on irresistible jazz era–inspired tunes and lyrics, while Michael Stewart's book balances lighthearted humor and romance, Tinseltown nostalgia, and a touch of Hollywood Babylon — in Mabel's drug-addled slide to infamy as inamorata of murdered director William Desmond Taylor (a terrific Michael Patrick Gaffney). (Avila)

miss-matches.com Off-Market Theater, 965 Mission, #250. $15-20. 820-1454, (877) 278-4842, www.miss-matches.com, www.brownpapertickets.com. $20. Extended run: Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through July 1. Leslie Beam performs her new solo show about relationships formed through the Internet.

No Exit Climate Theater, 285 Ninth St.; noexit2006@gmail.com. $10. Fri/5-Sat/6, 8pm. An all-female cast of recent Stanford University graduates takes a queer look at Sartre's scathing existentialist play.

Shove Off-Market Theaters, 965 Mission, Stage 205; 896-6477, www.custommade.org. $10-20 Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through May 13. Custom Made Theater Company presents New York playwright Mark Eisman's dark comedy about a former street urchin now newsstand attendant, Genette (a sharp and vibrant Cassie Powell), whose self-esteem and horizons expand exponentially when she serves as jury foreperson on a criminal trial and skillfully turns her peers 180 degrees around to acquit a man (Ross Pasquale) suspected of shoving a woman in front of a subway train. Now obsessed with befriending the exonerated paranoid recluse — against the better judgment of her fellow juror Selden (Todd Brotze), a desperately smitten security guard, and her cynical but motherly employer Cathy (A.J. Davenport) — Genette's pushing things along the track of inevitability (more than metaphor on Bruce Walters's set dominated by the flashing face of a train emerging from the grimy white tiles of a subway tunnel). Eisman's cartoony but witty and engaging story circles around the notion of peers — that throng alternately supporting, ignoring, judging, and oppressing us — and while probably speaking its meaning more than necessary (especially during the drawn-out climax), proves a fun ride overall. A few timing issues aside, director Christopher Jenkins pilots this enjoyable Bay Area premiere with smooth assurance. (Avila)

Slava's Snowshow Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor, SF; 551-2020, www.shnsf.com. $37-75. Tues-Sat, 8pm; Wed, Sat-Sun, 2pm. Through May 7. Winner of the Olivier Award in London for Best Entertainment, this theatrical spectacle centers around Slava Polunin, an acclaimed Russian clown.

Talking with Angels The Actors Center of San Francisco, 180 Capp; 800-838-3006, www.talkingwithangels.com, www.brownpapertickets.com. $15-25. Fri-Sat, 7:30pm; Sun, 5:30pm. Through May 28 Shelley Mitchell returns with her one-woman performance of Gitta Mallasz's acclaimed book set in Nazi-occupied Hungary.

Winnie the Pooh Young Performers Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Building C, Third Floor; 346-5550, www.ypt.org. $6-9. Sat-Sun, 1pm (also Sun, 3:30pm). Through May 21. The lovable bear and friends Christopher Robin, Piglet, Owl, and the rest have mad-cap adventures.

BAY AREA

Animal Crackers Contra Costa Civic Theatre 951 Pomona, El Cerrito; (510) 524-9132, www.ccct.org. $12-20. Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. Through May 20. Song and one-liners make up this Marx Brothers musical directed by David Bodgonoff.

CONTINUES ON PAGE 58 ››

Starting Thurs, May 4th to August 27, 06

"What Mama Said About Down There"

A hilarious collage of characters about Mothers and Daughters

"The largely misguided tales mothers share with daughters". -SFWeekly
"Amma extends her loving philosophies to all" --SF Bay Times

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Written and Performed by Sia Amma

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THEATER

CONT.>>

The Devil's Disciple Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck; (510) 649-5999, www.aeofberkeley.org. $10-12. Fri-Sat, 8pm (also May 4). Through May 6. David Stein directs George Bernard Shaw's play about a US colonial rebel.

>> **The Glass Menagerie** Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Thrust Stage, 2025 Addison, Berk; (510) 647-2949, (888) 427-8849, www.berkeleyrep.org. $30-59. Wed, 7pm; Tues and Thurs-Sat, 8pm (also Thurs, Sat, 2pm); Sun, 2pm, 7pm. Through May 31. Extended run: Wed, 7 pm; Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2 and 7pm. Through June 18. Berkeley Rep needs no more excuse to mount a revival of *The Glass Menagerie* than the chance to have Rita Moreno in the role of Amanda. Who wouldn't want to see that? And seeing is believing: Moreno's vivid and colorful Mother Wingfield immediately grounds Tennessee Williams's still worthwhile modern classic in a rare and memorable production. But director Les Waters and his collaborators deliver a first-ter *Menagerie* all around, one that suggests that Williams's breakthrough 1944 play — whatever limtations the decades have exposed (or imposed), especially concerning the playwright's self-conscious attempt to register the "social background" of his story in the late-1930s United States — has something in its theme of quiet desperation that makes it ripe for revisiting just now. After all, how hard is it to remember a time when American life was roiling with a guilty mix of foreboding and nervous anticipation for something sensed, but not quite seen, on the horizon — something that turned out to be World War II? If nothing else, the psychosocial landscape of the Great Depression — here our narrator, Tom Wingfield (Erik Lochtefeld), the playwnght's autobiographical stand-in, mingles with the masses who habitually escape their cramped lives in darkened movie theaters — is probably as close to us now as ever (Avila).

Money and Run Episode 4: Go Straight, No Chaser La Val's Subterranean, 1834 Euclid, Berk; (510) 464-4468, www.impactttheatre.com. $10-15. Thurs-Sat, 8pm. Through May 27. Impact Theatre takes on Wayne Rawley's underground serial comedy about a crime duo.

Noises Off Willows Theatre, 1975 Diamond, Concord; (925) 798-1300, www.willowstheatre.org. $30-35. Wed-Thurs, 7:30pm (also Wed, 3:30pm); Fri-Sat, 8pm (also Sat, 2pm); Sun, 3pm. Through May 7. Richard Elliott directs Michael Frayn's green-room farce.

Richard III Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut, Berk; (510) 276-3871. www.jeremycole.org. $12-17. Thurs-Sat, 8pm (except no show May 11). Through May 20. Jeremy Cole directs Shakespeare's classic tragedy.

Small Tragedy Aurora Theatre, 2081 Addison, Berk; (510) 843-4822, www.auroratheatre.org. $28-45. Wed-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm, 7pm. Through May 14. Kent Nicholson directs the West Coast premiere of Craig Lucas's 2004 Obie-winning play.

"TheatreWorks' 2006 Spring Festival of New Works" Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro, Second Stage, Mountain View; (650) 903-6000, www.theatreworks.org. $10-15. Through May 7. See Web site for schedule and times. Highlights of this year's festival include a musical rendition of Jane Austin's *Emma* and playwnght Adam Bock's latest, *The Drunken City*.

Walking the Dead Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant, Berk; (510) 326-8197, www.theatreq.org. $15-20. Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. Through Oct 29. Theatre Q performs Keith Curran's drama set at a memorial service for a transgendered murder victim.

World Music Old Oakland Theatre 461 Ninth St., Oakl; (510) 436-5085, www.theatrefirst.com. $10-$22 (pay what you can Thurs/4). Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 3pm. Through May 21. Dylan Russell directs Steve Waters play about the problematic relationship between the West and Africa.

DANCE

>> **Company Chaddick** Danzhaus, 1275 Connecticut; 435-7569, www.companychaddick.org. $20. Fri-Sat, 8 and 9:30pm. Through May 20. The contemporary dance company celebrates its 21st season with a world premiere of the piece *Landslide*. See picks box.

"Faith Folly and Revelation" ODC Theater, 3153 17th St; 863-9834, www.odctheater.org. $12-20. Fri-Sat, 8pm. Through May 13. Included in the evenings program are Apryl Renee, Spinning Yarns Dance Collective, and Jennifer Gwirtz and John Baumann of Right Brain PerformanceLab.

Inbal Pinto Dance Company Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard; 392-2545, www.performances.org. $24-45. Fri-Sat, 8pm, Sun, 2pm. The Israeli company presents its piece *Oyster*.

Nguyen Dance Company SomArts Cultural Center, 934 Brannan; 864-4126, www.dannydancers.org. $12-16. Fri, 8pm.This performance of *Beauty* opens the Ninth Annual United States of Asian America Festival.

San Francisco Ballet War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness; 865-2000, www.sfballet.org. Thurs/4 and Sat/6, 8pm (also Sat/6, 1pm). $8-99. Program B includes *Continuum* by Christopher Wheeldon, *Elemental Brubeck* by Lar Lubovitch, and *Reflections* by Yuri Possokhov.

Stephen Pelton Dance Theater Dance Mission Theater, 3316 24th St; 273-4633. $15-25, sliding scale. Fri/5-Sat/6, 8pm; Sun/7, 6pm; Thurs-Sat 8pm, Sun, 6pm Through May 14. The company performs *Tomorrow Tuesday*, a theatrical dance piece written by Brian Thorstenson.

Vispo Dance Collective Shotwell Studios, 3252 19th St; 289-2000, www.ftloose.org. $10-20. Fri-Sat, 8pm The contemporary dance troupe and current residents of the Resident Artists' Workshop at the studio perform.

BAY AREA

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley Campus, Bancroft Way at Telegraph, Berk: (510) 642-9988, www.calperfs.berkeley.edu. $30-52 The touring contemporary dance company performs four pieces, including *Enemy in the Figure, Strokes through the Tail, Kiss*, and *Gnawa*.

PERFORMANCE

BATS Improv Main Company Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason center, Buchanan at Marina; 474-8935, www.improv.org. Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm. $12-15. The improv troupe performs.

Big City Improv Shelton Theater, 533 Sutter; (510) 595-5597, www.bigcityimprov.com. Fri, 10pm. Ongoing. $15. The improv troupe performs.

"Dirty Little Secret" Empire Plush Room, 940 Sutter; 885-2800, www.empireplushroom.com. Fri-Sat, 11pm. Ongoing. $25. This evening of performance is a "roaring '20s revue."

Galumpha Kanbar Hall, Jewish Community Center, 3200 California; 292-1233, www.jccsf.org/arts. Sun, 2pm. $15-20. Galumpha troupe puts on a show incorporating acrobatics, physical comedy, and off-the-wall choreography.

"How We First Met" Purple Onion, 140 Columbus; 348-6280, www.howwefirstmet.com. Fri-Sat, 8pm. Call for price. Real stories from audience members become spontaneous musical comedy at this show.

"In the Rough" Traveling Jewish Theater, 470 Florida; 626-0453, ext. 105, www.playwnghtsfoundation.org. Tues, 7:30pm. $10-20. The Playwrights Foundation hosts this developmental reading series. This week: *BOB* by Anton Dudley.

The Black Bridge (Kalu Puf) Cellspace, 2050 Bryant; http://kalapul.info. Sat, 8pm. $10. Writer Saqib Mausoof presents a staged reading of his play about the conflicts of various Karachi cultures.

Improv Slam Off Market Theatre, 965 Mission; www.improvslam.com. Thurs, 8pm. Ongoing. Free. Performs participate in a singing contest with $50 cash prize and chance to go on to the finals.

Lotta's Opera Lotta's Fountain, Market at Kearny; 762-0721, www.sfartscommission.org/pubart. Sat-Sun, 11:30am. Free. Epiphany Productions presents an outdoor, roving performance choreographed by Kim Epifano.

"The Problems with Books" The Dark Room, 2263 Mission; 401-7987, www.darkroomsf.com. Sat, 10pm. Through May 27. $12. Billed as a sketch-tragedy troupe, the Problems put on a variety show.

"The Purple Friday Show" Purple Onion, 140 Columbus; 217-8400, www.caffemacaroni.com. Fri, 10pm. $5-7. Kiyoshi Foster and Guy J. Jackson host a variety show

San Francisco Improv Cooperative Off-Market Gallery, 965 Mission; 368-9909, www.sfimprovcooperative.com. Mon, 8pm. Ongoing. $5. The improv collective hosts a "Monday Night Jam."

Showcase 2006 Project Artaud Theater, 450 Florida; 759-8123, ext. 810. Thurs-Sat, 7:30 (also Sat-Sun, 2pm). $10-20. Students of the San Francisco School of Circus Arts showcase their talents in clowning, aerial work, and more

"Where My Girls At?" Jon Sims Center for the Performing Arts, 1519 Mission; 554-0402. Fri-Sat, 8pm. $5-15, sliding scale. Micia Mosely presents the final performances of her one-woman show about African American lesbians seeking community.

"Viva Concha! Rose of the Presidio" Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th St, 863-7576, www.luahadar.com. Fri-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 3pm. $20-30. This new musical by local composer Candace Forest is set 200 years ago in the Presidio.

BAY AREA

22nd Harmony Sweepstakes A Capella Festival Marin Veteran's Auditorium, 10 Ave, San Rafael; 499-6800, www.ticketmaster.com, www.harmony-sweepstakes.com. Sat, 8pm. $29.50. The event is a presentation of the National Championship Final and features regional winners.

COMEDY

50 Mason Lounge 50 Mason, SF; 398-4129. www.laughalotproductions.com. Wed, 7:30pm: "Laugh Dammit!," $10. Thurs, 8pm: "Blue Blanket Bust-Up," $10. Fri, 8pm: "Friday Night Comedy," with host Eric Peterson, $10. Sat, 8pm: "Saturday Night Showcase," $10

Brainwash 1122 Folsom, SF; 861-3663. Thurs, 7pm "Brainwash Comedy Open Mic," with host Tony Sparks, free.

Canvas Gallery 1200 Ninth Ave, SF; 504-0010. Tues, 8pm: "Comedy Open Mic Night," free.

Club Deluxe 1511 Haight, SF; 552-6949. Mon, 9pm: "Stand-Up Showcase," with rotating hosts Leah Eva and Sam Arno, free

Cobb's Comedy Club 915 Columbus, SF; www.cobbscomedyclub.com or www.ticketweb.com. Wed, 8pm: "All-Pro Comedy Showcase," $10. Thurs-Sun, 8pm (also Fri-Sat, 10:15pm): Bobby Slayton, $15-20

Empire Plush Room York Hotel, 940 Sutter, SF; (866) 468-3399, www.empireplushroom.com. Thurs-Sat, 8pm; Sun, 7pm: Suzanne Westenhoefer, $30-35

Mock Cafe 1074 Valencia, SF; 826-5750, ext 5, www.themarsh.org. Sat, 9:30 and 11pm: Stand-up comedy, $7.

Paramount Theatre 2025 Broadway, Oakl; (415) 421-8497. Sat, 8pm: Lewis Black, $39.50-45.50

Punch Line Comedy Club 444 Battery, SF; (415) 397-7573. Thurs-Sat, 8pm (also Fri-Sat, 10pm): Brian Posehn, Kyle Dunnigan, Sherry Sirof, $15-20.

Red Victorian Hotel 1665 Haight, SF, (650) 346-4195. Sun, 7pm: "SF Sunday Comics," hosted by Amir Malekpour and Ira Brightman, free.

San Francisco Comedy College Clubhouse 414 Mason, Suite 705, SF; www.sfcomedycollege.com. All shows free, unless otherwise indicated. Thurs, 8pm: "The Laughternath," $7. Fri, 6pm: "SFCC New Faces." Fri, 8pm: "The Arsenal." Sat, 6pm: "Petri Dish." Sat, 8pm: "The Stand-Up Project." Sat, 10pm: "Darwinista." Mon, 9pm: "Monday Night Make 'Em Ups," $15-20.

Studio Z 314 11th St., SF; 252-7666. Wed, 8pm. "Comedy Noir," hosted by Kurt Weitzmann, featuring Will Franken, Larry "Bubbles" Brown, Harmon Leon, Jimmy Gunn, Nico Santos, and Randy Harken, $5.

SPOKEN WORD

Open mics take place almost every night in cafés throughout the Bay Area. If you want to perform, show up about half an hour before start time to put your name on the list. A day-by-day guide to spoken word events and featured readers:

WEDNESDAY: Mechanics' Institute 57 Post, Room 405, SF; (415) 393-0119, ext. 192. Mechanix Poets meets to read poems, this week's topic is "Fish & Chips," 6pm, free. **San Francisco State University** Humanities, Room 512, 1600 Holloway, SF; (415) 338-3029. "Flor y Canto Festival," readings by Latino poets and writers, 7pm, free. **University of San Francisco** Xavier Hall, Maraschi Room, 2130 Fulton, SF; (415) 422-6066. Poet Stephen Kessler reads, 7:30pm, free.

THURSDAY: Exploratorium 3601 Lyon, SF; (415) 561-0372. Youth from WritersCorp read poems about earthquakes, 6pm, $8-13. **Mediterraneum Caffe** 2475 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 526-5985. **New College of California Cultural Center** 766 Valencia, SF; (415) 260-9496. Left Turn Magazine hosts "Stories of Reconstruction and Hope," with Ananda Esteva, Mana Poblet, Jim Saliba, and spoken word troupe Headrush. **Word Beat Reading Series** featuring Mark Schwartz and M.K. Chavez.

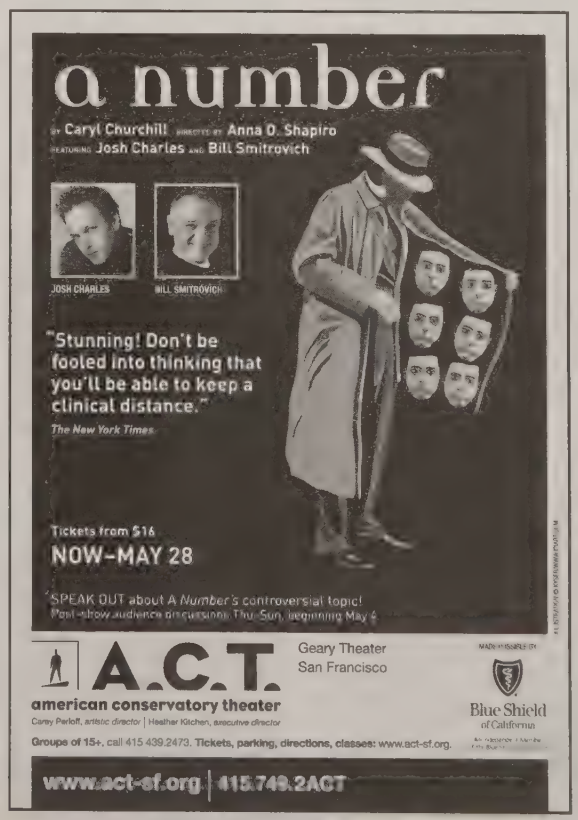
FRIDAY: Cody's Books 2454 Telegraph, Berk; (510) 845-7852. Sixteen Rivers Press reading featuring Sharon Olson and Murray Silverstein, 7pm, free

SATURDAY: Red Vic Peace Center 1665 Haight, SF; (415) 864-1978. "Open Mic and Hot Tamales," 5pm, free.

SUNDAY: Bird & Beckett Books and Records 2788 Diamond, SF; (415) 586-3733. Poetry reading commemorating Bobby Sands's death with featured poet Anne Ireland. **Cafe Melt** 700 Columbus, SF; (415) 392-9290. Raucous Rhetoric presents "A Literary Obsession." **Cafe Prague** 584 Pacific, SF; (415) 905-8837. Open mic featuring David Gollub. 4pm, free. **Club Waziema** 543 Divisadero, SF; (415) 346-6641. "Pagan Poetry Reading Series," an open mic featuring Dodie Bellamy and Geraldine Kim, 7pm, free. **La Peña Cultural Center** 3105 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 439-8777. "The State of the People Address," an antiwar poetry reading, free.

MONDAY: Pegasus Books 2349 Shattuck, Berk; (510) 649-1320. Poet Cynthia Hogue reads, 7:30, free. **Priya Indian Cuisine** 2072 San Pablo, Berk; berkeleypoetryexpress@yahoo.com. "Poetry Express," open mic featuring Jane Powell and Stephen Kopel, 7pm, free **Unity Cafe** 1661 Fillmore, SF; unitypoetry@gmail.com. Open mic hosted by E.K. Keith, featuring Amber Bouman, 7pm, free.

TUESDAY: Park Branch Library 1855 Page, SF; (415) 550-5530. Open mic hosted by Diamond Dave Whitaker, 7pm, free. SFBG



STEVEN KIRK NELSON

Power Tool Drag Races

PREVIEW You know the back of your closet, where you stashed the Skilsaw (the stroke length!) and, oh yeah, that rabbit vibrator (the pearls!), waiting for the right occasion? Well, now's the time to let them show you what they're worth: Dust 'em off, soup 'em up, and send those puppies hurtling down a custom-made 75-foot track. For the record, a power tool is a machine intended for handheld operation by one person. So that means bring your favorite belt sander mounted on a Big Wheel and powered by whippets, but leave the John Deere knuckleboom loader at home. The rules are as follows: Finish your machine before you arrive. Stay away from the liquor. Go faster than everyone else. Don't crash. Win money. Hoo boy. Godspeed. **(Caitlin Van Dusen)**

POWER TOOL DRAG RACES Sun/7, noon

Ace International Speedway, 2255 McKinnon, SF

$10–$15. www.powertooldragraces.com (see Web site for complete rules and entry fees)

Events listings are compiled by Sarah Han. See Picks, page 28, for information on how to submit items to the listings.

WEDNESDAY 3

BENEFITS

ArtSpan benefit art auction California Modern Gallery, 1035 Market; 861-9838, www.artspan.org. 6:30pm, $30. This event features an auction of works by more than 150 established and emerging SF artists, tasty desserts and drinks, and live music by the James Stafford Trio; proceeds benefit ArtSpan.

THURSDAY 4

AROUND TOWN

"Stories of Reconstruction and Hope" New College of California Cultural Center, 766 Valencia; 260-9496. 7pm, $8-20. *Left Turn* magazine celebrates its fifth anniversary with readings by Chicano spoken-word troupe Headrush and June Jordan's Poetry for the People alumni

FRIDAY 5

AROUND TOWN

A Celebration of the Beckett Centenary American Conservatory Theater, 415 Geary; 749-2228. 5:30pm, free. See Picks, page 28.

"Cinco de Mayo San Francisco" Parque de Niños, 23rd St between Folsom and Treat; 206-0577, www.cincodemayosf.com. 10am-6pm, free. This year's festival, themed "Goooooal Mexico!," features Mexican and Latin music and dancing, food, arts and crafts, and children's activities

SATURDAY 6

AROUND TOWN

International Workers' Holiday Event New Valencia Hall, 1908 Mission; 864-1278. 7:30pm, $3-5 sliding scale. This panel event discusses the recent anti-immigrant legislation and immigrant worker rights.

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"Norway Day Festival" Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna; www.norwayday.org. 10am-6pm, $8-12. The Norwegian Consulate General presents this family event celebrating Norwegian culture; highlights include live music, cooking demonstrations, a fashion show, art exhibits, and more. Also Sun/7.

"Pagan Festival and Parade" Festival: Civic Center Park, MLK Jr Way, between Center and Allston, Berk; parade: starts at California at University, Berk; (510) 872-0568. Festival, 10am-5pm; parade, 11am. The theme of the Pagan Alliance's fifth annual festival and parade is "Evolving Spirit"; highlights include an Interfaith ritual, traditional dancing, poetry, an author's circle, information booths, children's activities, food, and much more.

BAY AREA

"A la Carte and Art" Castro, between Church and Evelyn, Mountain View; (650) 964-3395. 10am-6pm, free. The Mountain View Central Business Association presents its 10th annual outdoor festival of live music, a juried art show featuring works by 250 craftspeople, food, wine, beer, chef demonstrations, children's activities, and more.

BENEFITS

West Memphis 3 Awareness Month event Dark Room Theatre, 2263 Mission; 401-7987. 3pm, $5. Watch a screening of *Paradise Lost: The Child Murders at Robin Hood Hills;* proceeds benefit the WM3 Defense Fund.

SUNDAY 7

AROUND TOWN

"Art in the Alley" Kerouac Alley, Columbus and Broadway; 362-3370, www.vesuvio.com. Noon-6pm. North Beach's historic Kerouac Alley becomes an open-air art market featuring works by more than 25 emerging and established artists.

RADIO WORTH WATCHING
TALK MUSIC HILARITY WISDOM

May 6
LIVE FROM THE FREIGHT & SALVAGE COFFEE HOUSE 1111 ADDISON STREET, BERKELEY
Author Edmund White
Devyani Saltzman, author of SHOOTING WATER
Rita Moreno

May 13
LIVE FROM RANCHO NICASIO IN NICASIO, CA
Elvin Bishop
Author Laura Esquivel
Bob Berner, of the Marin Agricultural Land Trust
Kathleen Inman, Inman Family Winery
Amy Speace, singer-songwriter
Claire Peaslee, Naturalist
Mike Greensill

May 20
LIVE FROM RANCHO NICASIO IN NICASIO, CA
Marshall Chapman, Nashville music legend
Shazia Mirza
Mike Duke, California music legend
Mike Greensill

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"How Weird Street Faire" Entrance at 12th St and South Van Ness; www.howweird.org. Noon-8pm, $10, $5 in costume. This colorful annual block party features performance artists, vendors, nonprofit organizations, food and drinks, and much more.

"Norway Day Festival" Herbst Pavilion, Fort Mason Center, Marina at Laguna; www.norwayday.org. 10am-6pm, $8-12. See Sat/6.

"Polish Festival" County Fair Building, Golden Gate Park, Ninth Ave at Lincoln Way; (408) 396-3023. 10am-5:30pm, free. The Polish American Community presents this festival featuring folk dancing, live music, arts and crafts, a bookstore, food and beverages, and more

BAY AREA

"A la Carte and Art" Castro, between Church and Evelyn, Mountain View; (650) 964-3395. 10am-6pm, free. See Sat/6.

MONDAY 8

AROUND TOWN

"Gonzo Prophets: Spirituality, Activism, and the Arts" Kanbar Hall, Jewish Community Center of San Francisco, 3200 California; jccsf.org/hub. 8pm. See Picks, page 28

"Progressive Reading Series" Make-Out Room, 3225 22nd St; 647-2888. 7pm, $10-20 sliding scale. Stephen Elliott hosts this fifth "Progressive Reading Series" event; tonight features Steve Almond, Aimee Bender, Peter Rock, Hal Niedzviecki, and Pam Houston. **SFBG**

PAGAN FESTIVAL AND PARADE

Saturday, May 6, 2006, 10 am - 5 pm

Civic Center Park Berkeley CA
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Theme "Evolving Spirit"
Interfaith Ritual, Traditional Dance, Music, Crafts
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Altars, and Children's Area

Keeper of the Light: Anne Hill
Hosted by Shay Black
Awards for Best Float and Best Costume

Food Drive for Alameda County Community Food Bank
Used Cell Phone Donation for 'Secure The Call'
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Afterparty by Axis Mundi www.soundclick.com/axismundi

THE PAGAN ALLIANCE GUARDIAN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY GUARDIAN

www.thepaganalliance.org

food + drink

THE BLENDER

(1) Toasted pine nut couscous
(2) Magret de canard, Le Metro Café
(3) Filet of halibut with mussels and fingerling potatoes, First Crush
(4) Brut "Cuvée des Moines," Besserat de Bellefon
(5) Homemade Meyer lemon meringue pie

Despite the name, Kookez is anything but off the rails, serving sane, familiar comfort foods with typical Noe Valley charm.
GUARDIAN PHOTO BY RORY McNAMARA

Crazy on you

By Paul Reidinger
› paulr@sfbg.com

Kookez looks like a name from *The Epic of Gilgamesh*, or perhaps the name of some lost city in ancient Persia — near Shiraz? — but really it's a kind of phonetic or spoof spelling. Hint: Resist the urge, almost irresistible in this city, to see the word *kook*; remember that we deal in food and restaurants here and visualize . . . cookies! (No, not whirled peas.) For Kookez Café is, indeed, in part about cookies; they are the pride of founder, owner, and baker Lynn Marie Presley, and a selection of them, along with other tempting baked goods, is on display in a glass case just inside the entryway.

But Kookez is about more than cookies. It is the successor to the long-running and successful Miss Millie's (recently decamped to the East Bay) and accordingly has inherited the pole position in Noe Valley's busy weekend brunch derby. It is also a cozy evening spot, serving "coast to coast" American comfort-food dishes — many with a decidedly Southern accent — in as appealingly old-fashioned a setting as you're likely to find around town. The look is that of some venerable, family-run café on a narrow lane in Paris or London: lots of warm wood, yellowish wall lamps, snug booths, and a small garden in the rear whose charms are, thus far in this indescribably dreary spring, hypothetical. Those with long memories will recall that the space, before becoming Miss Millie's, belonged to a coffeehouse named Meat Market, which took its name from the butcher shop that once occupied the premises.

An overhead rail for hanging split carcasses is still mounted from the ceiling just in front of the small exhibition kitchen, where the chef, Amir, goes about his business. When Miss Millie's opened, in the mid-1990s, the original menu was vegetarian, and the rail was left in place as an ironic reminder, a kind of memento mori for meat eaters, or maybe non–meat eaters. But Miss Millie's later expanded beyond meatless offerings as the neighborhood changed, and as Kookez picks up the baton, the neighborhood continues to change.

Noe Valley is known as the city's "baby belt," and really you can't go a block without encountering a baby stroller, a nanny, a pack of tots, or a young father carrying an infant in some kind of chest sling. The Kookez brain trust is on the case; in addition to the cookies, the restaurant offers a kids' menu (cupcakes included), the waitstaff seems unfazed by strollers zooming to and fro inside, and the cards of fare are laminated. I understand the precautionary nature of taking this last step, since children do have a way of spilling, scattering, smearing, and otherwise making messes with their food. At the same time, the menu card entombed in plastic does summon for some of us the ghosts of forgettable meals in chain restaurants near freeways at the outskirts of cookie-cutter cities in the heart of the heart of the country.

For the most part, Kookez pulls off its Comfort Food Nation conceit pretty nicely. The familiar stuff is the best: a bowl of New England clam chowder weighted with potatoes and bacon and heady with black pepper ($4.95); a chicken pot pie ($10.95) with a lovely golden pastry crust and a pea-rich stuffing; an excellent hamburger ($8.50), subtly swabbed with chipotle aioli and served with a stack of garlicky home fries in need of but a sprinkle of salt to come to attention; an herb-roasted half chicken ($12.50), tender and moist and plated with garlic mashed potatoes (under- and perhaps unsalted) and sautéed zucchini.

The chilled tomato tower ($7.75) — basically a napoleon, layers of red and gold tomato slices buffered by disks of mozzarella and seasoned with basil and balsamic vinegar — would be a lovely dish in summer, when the tomatoes are soft, juicy, and deeply flavored. At the end of winter, one tastes mainly the chill. The mango quesadilla ($7.50) is a worthy attempt to dress up a possibly overfamiliar friend; the decorations include a nippy blend of jack and brie cheeses, the aforementioned mango, and slices of strawberry on top. The strawberry slices looked a little forlorn on the golden half disk, as if the door to a party had been shut in their faces and they were left to pace around outside. At the same time, their presence did suggest not just seasonality but the possibility of some clever innovation: How about pureeing them with some garlic, cilantro, cayenne, and lime juice into a kind of spring salsa?

One of the best of the Southern-inflected dishes is the bayou butter-BQ dippin' shrimp ($21.50), eight or nine big sautéed prawns accompanied by three lengths of grilled fresh okra — a surprisingly appealing bit of exotica — and not one but two dipping sauces: a peppery bourbon-butter number and a fruity-sharp jam of ginger and chilis that's reminiscent of something you might be served with pot stickers. I would say this dish is well worth its sticker price, while noting that the sticker price is slightly lofty for a neighborhood joint. And it isn't alone in being on the high side of $20; two other dishes also wander above the tree line, while several more are in the upper teens. But . . . this is the new Noe Valley, the Beverly Hills of the Googleocracy.

This can be a depressing line of contemplation, and a ready antidote is the infantile pleasure of dessert: a slice of rich amaretto cheesecake ($7.95), say, with blood orange sorbet. Or just a cookie — maybe chocolate chip ($1.50) — if you're not nuts about such a rich finish. SFBG

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Splitsville

Split is a splendid little word, one of my favorites, at least when we are wandering through the joyous realm of sparkling wine. Who wouldn't want an adorably petite bottle of bubbly for one's own, complete with cork wrapped in fancy foil in a cage of golden wire? Yet *split,* alas, has other meanings too; in that terrible, inevitable restaurant moment when the check arrives, the word becomes the occasion for close scrutiny of the bill, who had what, some people drank more than others, tax is always a muddle, multiple credit or debit cards (all confusingly similar in appearance) are produced, and, at the very end, there is the dreadful business of agreeing on a tip. It is a business negotiation, basically, a moment for teams of accountants, and it sounds a slightly off note at the end of a lovely evening.

Splitting a check is somewhat less cumbersome and embarrassing in cash transactions, true — which tend to be smaller anyway — and I would grant an exemption for gigantic get-togethers like birthday-party dinners, where 20 or more people can gather at a single table and the tab can easily drift past $500 or even higher. But: For the usual small rendezvouses, têtes-à-têtes and so forth, somebody should just pick up the check. I nominate rich people. Rich people should pay. The richest person at the table should fess up or, better yet, just discreetly snatch the bill when it comes and discreetly whip out the platinum card to settle the matter. This would be a kind of gracious ad hoc socialism that would also meliorate a small but galling social blight, and while it wouldn't necessarily assure the fate of one's eternal soul, if any ("Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God" — Matthew 19:24), it couldn't hurt. Spending money on food is a virtue, as is spending money on other people — so spending money to feed other people must be doubly virtuous.

How to determine who the richest person at your table is? I recommend the stare-down. And if two rich people happen to be having dinner? (Surely this happens from time to time.) One pays this time; the other, the next — socialism for the rich, kind of. SFBG

Paul Reidinger
› paulr@sfbg.com

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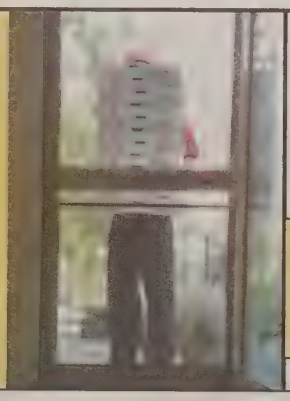

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Dumpling drifter

By L.E. Leone
› le_chicken_farmer@yahoo.com

CHEAP EATS Me and Wayway went to the store and bought 67 chicken wings, a carton of buttermilk, and a big bottle of oil. Then we went out to eat. I had a show that night in the Sunset, at my new favorite bar, the Riptide, so the plan was to point ourselves in that direction and just roll.

The Riptide is on Taraval, way out there, almost all the way to the beach. But we barely got past 19th Avenue, of course, before we had to stop rolling and walk. What pulled us over was this new Hawaiian joint where JT's diner used to be. It looks pretty good. I looked in the window, and Wayway looked at the menu in the window.

"Eggs and rice," Wayway said. "Spam and eggs."

"Hay," I said. "Straw."

We meant all these things as compliments. You know, sometimes I wear Hawaiian shirts when I play the Ping-Pong, and sometimes I wear Western shirts. If I had been wearing a Hawaiian shirt, I might have had a new favorite Hawaiian restaurant to tell you about, but as fate would have it, I was wearing a Western shirt.

Which was just as well because I'd already eaten about five eggs that day anyway. We looked into a couple other places and wound up agreeing on a hole-in-the-wall just a few doors down called White Horse Dim Sum & Restaurant.

Hot dang it smelled good in there. It smelled kind of like celery. There was no art on the walls, no music, and just a couple of tables. So the atmosphere was the smell of celery. And general hominess. The White Horse family, from little kids to Gram and Gramps, was just sitting down to eat at this one big table. Every now and again one or another of them would get up and pour our tea and take our order and cook and everything.

So now, finally, I have a new favorite Chinese restaurant. Check this out: Dim sums are 60 cents each, they have Shanghai dumplings for $3.50 for six, lunch specials for $3.95 with rice and wonton soup or coffee, and they have almost 20 kinds of soup for under 5 bucks, most of them under 4. Rice plates, noodles . . . a lot of $3.50s, $3.95s, and $4.50s. I don't think anything was more than 5 bucks.

What I'm getting at: *Cheap!*

And don't forget that it smells real good in there. So, OK, so what we wanted, in honor of yet another soupy San Francisco day, was soup. And the guy sitting behind us was eating dumplings, so, sure, we were going to need dumplings too. You can't talk about frying and barbecuing chicken wings without dumplings. At least a dozen.

Wayway told me how when he was living in Shanghai he used to eat these things for breakfast every day, and how sometimes, because of the language barrier, he'd ask for six, which was one order, and they'd bring him six orders of six.

"I want to live somewhere with a language barrier," I said.

Shanghai dumplings, those are the steamed pork ones with like little bowls of soup in them. Pig drippin's, you figure. It pools inside while the pork cooks, and stays warm but somehow not too hot, and then when it erupts inside your mouth you get this flow of buttery, greasy goodness all over your tongue, and . . . and . . . um . . .

I lost my train of thought.

Chicken wings. Buttermilk. Barbecue sauce. Strategy. Celery. Oral sex. Oh yeah, soup. That was the other thing we were eating. Fish ball noodle soup, and pork noodle soup ($3.95 either way). Both were great. The broth was excellent, the noodles had to have been homemade, they tasted so good, and the vegetables were done perfectly, with still a little life left to them. Bok choy, broccoli, celery.

I'll tell you, I walked out of the White Horse feeling really good. And I stayed that way all through the rest of the evening. Pabst Blue Ribbon. Rum. Coffee, next morning, and we went to work like two well-oiled machines, Wayway frying, or *par*frying the wings, and the chicken farmer manwomanpersoning the grill. Barbefried chicken. My joke is that it's health food, if two wrongs make a right, which, conventional wisdom being, for our purposes, damned, they do. Right? SFBG

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Welcome to our dining listings, a detailed guide by neighborhood of some great places to grab a bite, hang out with friends, or impress the ones you love with thorough knowledge of this delectable city. Restaurants are reviewed by Paul Reidinger (PR) or staff. All area codes are 415, and all restaurants are wheelchair accessible, except where noted.

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DOWNTOWN/EMBARCADERO

Ana Mandara looks and feels like a soundstage, but the menu offers what is probably the best high-end Vietnamese-style food in town. (Staff) 891 Beach, SF. 771-6800. Vietnamese, L/D, $$$, AE/MC/V.
Anjou is the *other* restaurant on Campton Place — a lovely little warren of brick and brass serving an unpretentious, and sometimes inventive, French bistro menu. (Staff) 44 Campton Pl., SF. 392-5373. French, L/D, $$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
B44 brings Daniel Olivella's Catalan cooking to al fresco–friendly Belden Place. The salt cod–studded menu is stronger in first than main dishes. Frenchy desserts. (Staff 44 Belden Pl, SF. 986-6287. Catalan, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Bar Crudo can be found perched above the Stockton Street tunnel and offers a panoply of Euro-Cali and Asian-influenced seafood dishes, many of them uncooked, in a loftlike setting of vertical intimacy and rustic-industrial chic. (PR, 3/06) 603 Bush, SF. 956-0396. Seafood, D, $$, AE/DS/MC/V.
Cortez has a Scandinavian Designs–on–acid look — lots of heavy, weird multicolored mobiles — but Pascal Rigo's Mediterranean-influenced small plates will quickly make you forget you're eating in a hotel. (PR, 10/03) 550 Geary (in the Hotel Adagio), SF. 292-6360. Mediterranean, B/D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.
» **Gary Danko** is an exercise in symmetries, with food, ambience, and service in a fine balance. Danko's California cooking is distinctive, but the real closer is the cheese cart, laden with the exquisite and the rare. (Staff) 800 North Point, SF. 749-2060. California, D, $$$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Kyo-Ya may not be *the* best Japanese restaurant in the city, but it's certainly one of them. Elegantly padded surroundings, sublime sushi, and a wide selection of cooked dishes attract an international mercantile class. (Staff) 2 New Montgomery, SF. 512-1111. Japanese, L/D, $$$, AE/MC/V.
The Mandarin, though a Gen Xer by birth and a longtime resident of touristy Ghirardelli Square, still offers a matchlessly elegant experience in Chinese fine dining. A surprising number of genuinely spicy dishes; superior service; wine emphasized over beer. (PR, 9/04) 900 North Point (in Ghirardelli Square), SF. Chinese, L/D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.
» **Mijita** shows that Traci des Jardins can go downmarket with the best of them. The Mexican street food is convincingly lusty, but in keeping with the Ferry Building setting, it's also made mostly with organic, high-quality ingredients. (PR, 4/05) 1 Ferry Bldg. #44, SF. 399-0814. Mexican, B/L/D, ¢, AE/MC/V.
Plouf Mussels 10 ways — need we say more? Plouf knows its turf, and that's surf. All the seafood sparkles at this chic spot tucked away on pedestrians-only Belden Place, though mussels are a house specialty, impeccably fresh and served in brimming bowlfuls. Lots of outdoor seating reinforces the French-café feel. (Staff) 40 Belden Pl., SF. 986-6491. French, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Tlaloc rises like a multistory loft on its Financial District Lane, the better to accommodate the hordes of suits crowding in for a noontime burrito-and-salsa fix. They serve a mean pipián burrito, and decent fish tacos. (Staff) 525 Commercial, SF. 981-7800. Mexican, L/D, ¢, AE/MC/V.

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NORTH BEACH/CHINATOWN

Da Flora advertises Venetian specialties, but notes from Central Europe (veal in paprika cream sauce) and points east (whiffs of nutmeg) creep into other fine dishes. (Staff) 701 Columbus, SF. 981-4664. Italian, D, $$, MC/V.
Enrico's Sidewalk Cafe remains a classic see-and-be-seen part of the North Beach scene. The full bar and extensive menu of tapas, pizzas, pastas, and grills make dropping in at any hour a real treat. (Staff) 504 Broadway, SF. 982-6223. Mediterranean, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
House of Nanking never fails to garner raves from restaurant reviewers and *Bay Guardian* readers alike. Chinatown ambience, great food, good prices. (Best Ofs, 1994) 919 Kearny, SF. 421-1429. Chinese, L/D, ¢.
Maykadeh Persian Cuisine is a great date restaurant, classy but not too pricey, and there are lots of veggie options both for appetizers and entrées. Khoresht bademjan was a delectable, deep-red stew of tomato and eggplant with a rich, sweet, almost chocolatey undertone. (Staff) 470 Green, SF. 362-8286. Persian, L/D, $, MC/V.
Moose's is famous for the Mooseburger but the rest of the menu is comfortably sophisticated. The crowd is moneyed but not showy and definitely not nouveau. (Staff) 1652 Stockton, SF. 989-7800. American, BR/L/D, $$, AE/DC/MC/V.
Rico's touts its salsas, and they are good, but so is almost everything else on the mainstream Mexican menu. (PR, 9/01) 943 Columbus, SF. 928-5404. Mexican, L/D, ¢, AE/MC/V.
Washington Square Bar and Grill offers stylish Cal-Ital food at reasonable prices in a storied setting. (PR, 8/03) 1707 Powell, SF. 982-8123. Italian, $$, L/D, MC/V.

SOMA

AsiaSF *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* meets Asian-influenced tapas at this amusingly surreal lounge. The drag-queen burlesque spectacle draws a varied audience that's a show in itself. (Staff) 201 Ninth St., SF. 255-2742. Fusion, D, $, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Le Charm is the perfect spot to settle into a padded banquette and order wine and lamb chops and lovely little crème caramels. (Staff) 315 Fifth St., SF. 546-6128. French, L/D, $$, MC/V.
» **Fringale** still satisfies the urge to eat in true French bistro style, with Basque flourishes. The paella roll is a small masterpiece of food narrative; the frites are superior. (PR, 7/04) 570 Fourth St., SF. 543-0573. French/Basque, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Hawthorne Lane comes about as close to restaurant perfection as is possible in this world. The California cooking shows marked Asian influences; the mutedly elegant decor is welcoming, not stuffy. Sublime service. (Staff) 22 Hawthorne Lane (between Second and Third Sts. at Howard), SF. 777-9779. California, L/D, $$$, MC/V.
India Garden indeed has a lovely garden and an excellent lunch buffet that does credit to South Asian standards. (PR, 2/03) 1261 Folsom, SF. 626-2798. Indian, L/D, $, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.
» **Mochica** serves quite possibly the best Peruvian food in the city, at extremely reasonable prices. The location is iffy, mostly because of speeding traffic. Jaywalk with care. (PR, 6/04) 937 Harrison, SF. 278-0480. Peruvian, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Oola gives Ola Fendert his own platform at last, and the result is a modern, golden SoMa restaurant with a menu that mixes playful opulence with local standards. (PR, 10/04) 860 Folsom, SF. 995-2061. California, D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Town Hall offers the lusty American cooking of the Rosenthal brothers in an elegantly spare, New England–ish setting. There is a large communal table for seat-of-the-pants types or those who like their conviviality to have a faintly medieval air. (PR, 12/03) 342 Howard, SF. 908-3900. American, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Vino e Cucina offers a pleasantly oasislike setting and solid Italian food — with the occasional pleasant surprise — on a gritty stretch of Third Street. (PR, 3/03) 489 Third St., SF. 543-6962. Italian, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.

NOB HILL/RUSSIAN HILL

Acquerello reminds us that the Italians, like the French, have a high cuisine — sophisticated and earthy and offered in a onetime chapel with exposed rafters and sumptuous fabrics on the banquettes. Service is as knowledgeable and civilized as at any restaurant in the city. (PR, 3/05) 1722 Sacramento, SF. 567-5432. Italian, $$$, D, AE/DS/MC/V.
Bacio offers homey, traditional Italian dishes in a charmingly cozy, rustic space. Service can be slow. (PR, 1/05) 835 Hyde, SF. 292-7999. Italian, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Cordon Bleu has huge portions, tiny prices, and a hoppin' location right next to the Lumiere Theatre. (Staff) 1574 California, SF. 673-5637. Vietnamese, L/D, ¢.
The Grubstake might look like your typical Polk Gulch diner — sandwiches and burgers, open very late — but the kitchen also turns out some good mom-style Portuguese dishes, replete with olives, salt cod, and linguiça. If you crave caldo verde at 3 a.m., this is the place. (Staff) 1525 Pine, SF. 673-8268. Portuguese/American, B/L/D, ¢, cash only.
Le Petit Robert offers classy French cooking as a wealth of small plates, along with a few larger ones, in a setting that's at once spacious and warm. Not cheap, but good value. (Staff) 2300 Polk, SF. 922-8100. French, L/D, $$, MC/V.
Ruth's Chris Steakhouse brings on the lipids in a big, big way — even the salads are well marbled — but if you're not worried about fat, you'll find the food to be quite tasty, the mood soothingly refined. (Staff) 1601 Van Ness, SF. 673-0557. Steak, D, $$$, AE/CB/DC/DS/MC/V.

CIVIC CENTER/TENDERLOIN

Ananda Fuara serves a distinctly Indian-influenced vegetarian menu in the sort of calm surroundings that are increasingly the exception to the rule. (Staff) 1298 Market, SF. 621-1994. Vegetarian, L/D, ¢, cash only.
Canto do Brasil The draw here is lusty yeoman cooking, Brazilian style, at beguilingly low prices. The tropically cerulean interior design enhances the illusion of sitting at a beach café. (Staff) 41 Franklin, SF. 626-8727. Brazilian, L/D, $, MC/V.
Indigo serves up good California cuisine in a pleasantly stylish setting. A great pre-symphony choice. (Staff) 687 McAllister, SF. 673-9353. California, D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Mangosteen radiates lime-green good cheer from its corner perch in the Tenderloin. Inexpensive Vietnamese standards are rendered with thoughtful little touches and an emphasis on the freshest ingredients. (PR, 11/05) 601 Larkin, SF. 776-3999. Vietnamese, L/D, $, cash only.
Pagolac For $10.95 a person you and two or more of your favorite beef eaters can dive into Pagolac's specialty: seven-flavor beef. Less carnivorous types can try the cold spring rolls, shrimp on sugarcane, or lemongrass tofu. (Staff) 655 Larkin, SF. 776-3234. Vietnamese, L/D, ¢.
» **Saha** serves "Arabic fusion cuisine" — a blend of the Middle East and California — in a cool, spare setting behind the concierge's desk at the Hotel Carlton. One senses the imminence of young rock stars, drawn perhaps by the lovely chocolate fondue. (PR, 9/04) 1075 Sutter, SF. 345-9547. Arabic/fusion, B/BR/D, $$, AE/DS/MC/V.

HAYES VALLEY

Absinthe restyles the rustic foods of southern France into sleek urban classics. No absinthe; have a pastis instead. (PR, 11/03) 398 Hayes, SF. 551-1590. Southern French, B/BR/L/D, $$, AE/DC/MC/V.
Espetus means "skewer" in Portuguese, and since the place is a Brazilian grill, the (huge) skewers are laden with a variety of meats, poultry, and seafood. The giant buffet at the rear assures that you will not — you cannot — leave hungry. (PR, 3/04) 1686 Market, SF. 552-8792. Brazilian, L/D, $$$, MC/V.

Hayes Street Grill still offers a workable formula: the best fish, prepared with conservative expertise and offered with a choice of sauce and excellent pommes frites. An old, reliable friend. (Staff) 320 Hayes, SF. 863-5545. Seafood, L/D, $$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Sauce enjoys the services of chef Ben Paula, whose uninhibited California cooking is as easy to like as a good pop song. (PR, 5/05) 131 Gough, SF. 252-1369. California, D, $$, AE/CB/DS/MC/V.
Zuni Cafe is one of the most celebrated — and durable — restaurants in town, perhaps because its kitchen has honored the rustic country cooking of France and Italy for the better part of two decades. (PR, 2/05) 1658 Market, SF. 552-2522. California, B/L/D, $$$, AE/MC/V.

CASTRO/NOE VALLEY/ GLEN PARK

Bacco breathes north-Italian authenticity, from the terra-cotta-colored walls to the traditional but vivid veal preparations. One of the best neighborhood Italian restaurants in town. (Staff) 737 Diamond, SF. 282-4969. Italian, D, $$, MC/V.
Blue dishes up home cooking as good as any mom's, in a downtown New York environment — of mirrors, gray blue walls, and spotlights — that would blow most moms away. (Staff) 2337 Market, SF. 863-2583. American, BR/L/D, $, MC/V.
Côté Sud brings a stylish breath of Provence to the Castro. The cooking reflects an unfussy elegance; service is as crisp as a neatly folded linen napkin. Nota bene: you must climb a set of steps to reach the place. (PR, 10/02) 4238 18th St., SF. 255-6565. French, D, $$, MC/V.
Eric's Dig into the likes of mango shrimp, hoisin green beans, and spicy eggplant with chicken in this bright, airy space. (Staff) 1500 Church, SF. 282-0919. Chinese, L/D, $, MC/V.
Fresca raises the already high bar a little higher for Peruvian restaurants in town. Many of the dishes are complex assemblies of unusual and distinctive ingredients, but some of the best are among the simplest. The skylit, barrel-ceiling setting is quietly spectacular. (PR, 7/05) 3945 24th St., SF. 695-0549. Peruvian, L/D, $$, AE/DS/MC/V.
Lupa, in the old Noi–Little Italy space, serves a strong pan-Italian menu with Roman accents. Service is knowledgeable and familial, the food competitive in a competitive neighborhood. (PR, 5/03) 4109 24th St., SF. 282-5872. Italian, D, $$, MC/V.
Malacca serves the foods of the Malacca Strait region, and the sophisticated mix is unmistakably Singaporean, from Portuguese noodles (with basil, tomato, garlic, and ginger) to beef rendang. Wine is emphasized over beer, and the decor, of undulating bamboo, is quietly striking. (PR, 11/05) 4039 18th St., SF. 863-0679. Pan-Asian, D, $$, MC/V.

HAIGHT/COLE VALLEY/ WESTERN ADDITION

Abacus offers a bright, California-inflected Chinese menu in a slightly architectural neighborhood setting, the neighborhood being a NoPa island of serenity behind St. Mary's Hospital and near USF. Prices are moderate and the quality of ingredients and care in preparation high. (PR, 2/06) 2078 Hayes, SF. 387-2828. Chinese, L/D, $$, MC/V.
Bia's Restaurant and Wine Bar proves hippies know what's what in matters of food and wine. An excellent menu of homey items with Middle Eastern and Persian accents; a tight, widely varied wine list. (PR, 11/04) 1640 Haight, SF. 861-8868. California/Middle Eastern, L/D, $. AE/DC/MC/V.
Frankie's Bohemian Cafe has Pilsener Urquell, a Bohemian beer, on tap for a touch of Czech authenticity, but the crowd is young, exuberant, Pacific Heights, het. Follow the crowd and stick with the burgers. (PR, 2/05) 1682 Divisadero, SF. 921-4725. Czech/American, L/D, $, AE/MC/V.
Grandeho's Kamekyo Sushi Bar Always packed, Grandeho serves up excellent sushi along with a full Japanese menu. (Staff) 943 Cole, SF. 759-5693. Japanese, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Magnolia Pub and Brewery A mellow atmosphere and beers that taste distinctly handcrafted make great accompaniments to burgers, chicken wings, ale-steamed mussels, pizzas, along with some unexpected Cali fusion like grilled soy-sesame eggplant. (Staff) 1398 Haight, SF. 864-PINT. Brew pub, BR/L/D, $, AE/MC/V.
Raja Cuisine of India serves up decent renditions of Indian standards in an unassuming, even spare, setting. Low prices. (Staff) 500 Haight, SF. 255-6000. Indian, L/D, $, MC/V.
Tsunami Sushi and Sake Bar brings hip Japanese-style seafood to the already hip Café Abir complex. Skull-capped sushi chefs, hefty and innovative rolls. (PR, 5/03) 1306 Fulton, SF. 567-7664. Japanese/sushi, D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.
Winterland borrows the nostalgic name of the onetime ice-skating rink cum music venue that once stood on the spot, but the food is pure — and foamy — Euro avant-garde, served to a glam crowd dressed in shades of SoMa black. For a less vertiginous experience, enjoy the bar menu. (PR, 6/05) 2101 Sutter, SF. 563-5025. International, D, $$$, AE/MC/V.
Zoya takes some finding — it is in the little turret of the Days Inn Motor Lodge at Grove and Gough — but the view over the street's treetops is bucolic, and the cooking is simple, seasonal, direct, and ingredient-driven. (PR, 12/05) 465 Grove, SF. 626-9692. California, L/D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.

MISSION/BERNAL HEIGHTS/ POTRERO HILL

Al's Cafe Good Food Al's is the best dang diner in town. Everything here is great, from the home fries and eggs to the chili and burgers, and even the toast in between. (Staff) 3286 Mission, SF. 641-8445. American, B/L, ¢.
Amira melds virtuosic belly dancing shows with veggie kebabs; smoky, delicate walnut dip with pita chips; and the star choice, Turkish eggplant, a handsome portion of unbelievably tender sautéed aubergine in a marinara sauce. (Staff) 590 Valencia, SF. 621-6213. Middle Eastern, D, $, MC/V.
Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers is famed for its garden, but the burgers are pretty good too, and the curly fries are exemplary, if on the rich side. The menu tilts toward the light side, with plenty of poultry and vegetarian choices. (PR, 4/06) 4138 24th St, SF (other locations in San Francisco, San Rafael, Berkeley, Oakland). 282-7770. American, L/D, $, MC/V.
Blowfish glows red and inviting on an otherwise industrial and residential stretch of Bryant Street. Sushi — in pristine fingers of nigiri or in a half-dozen inventive hand rolls — is a marvel. (Staff) 2170 Bryant, SF. 285-3848. Sushi, L/D, $, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Blue Plate has a diner aura — bustle, clatter — but the Mediterranean food is stylishly flavorful. A great value. (PR, 2/03) 3218 Mission, SF. 282-6777. Mediterranean, D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Cafe Ethiopia It's basically a coffeehouse, serving all the same coffees and teas and Toranis as anyone else. It's just that they also have great, cheap Ethiopian food too. (Staff) 878 Valencia, SF. 285-2728. Ethiopian, B/L/D, ¢.
Delfina has grown from a neighborhood restaurant to an event, but an expanded dining room has brought the noise under control, and as always, the food — intense variations on a theme of Tuscany — could not be better. (PR, 2/04) 3621 18th St., SF. 552-4055. California, D, $$, MC/V.
Emmy's Spaghetti Shack offers a tasty, inexpensive, late-night alternative to Pasta Pomodoro. The touch of human hands is everywhere evident. (Staff) 18 Virginia, SF. 206-2086. Italian, D, $, cash only.
Foreign Cinema serves some fine New American food in a spare setting of concrete and glass that warms up romantically once the sun goes down. (Staff) 2534 Mission, SF. 648-7600. California, D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Geranium occupies an old butcher shop and serves vegetarian comfort food that, in its meatless meatiness, manages to honor both past and present in a way that should make everyone happy. (PR, 8/04) 615 Cortland, SF. 647-0118. Vegetarian, BR/D, $$, MC/V.
Inkas returns Peruvian cooking to its roots in a grand setting (once a house of finance) at the edge of Bernal Hill. Peruvian-style roast chicken is the house specialty and is especially good despite bush-league fries. From ceviche to alfajores, the food is tasty and attractively priced. (PR, 3/06) 3299 Mission, SF. 648-

CONTINUES ON PAGE 66>>

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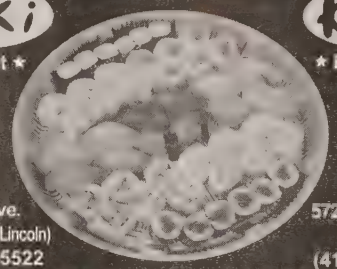

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CONT,,

0111. Peruvian, L/D, $$, MC/V

Little Baobab reminds us that creole cooking isn't just from New Orleans; the excellent (and inexpensive) food takes its influences from French island culture in the Caribbean and Indian Oceans. (PR, 11/02) 3388 19th St., SF 643-3558. Creole, D, $, MC/V

» **Little Nepal** assembles a wealth of sensory cues (sauna-style blond wood, brass table services) and an Indian-influenced Himalayan cuisine into a singular experience that appeals to all of Bernal Heights and beyond, including tots in their strollers. (PR 6/03) 925 Cortland, SF. 643-3881. Nepalese, L/D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.

Luna Park bubbles over with the new Mission's nouveau riche, but even so, the food is exceptionally satisfying and not too expensive (Staff) 694 Valencia, SF. 553-8584. Californian, L/D, $, MC/V

Maverick holds several winning cards, including a menu of first-rate New American food, a clutch of interesting wines by the glass and half glass, and a handsome, spare Mission District setting discreetly cushioned for sound control. (PR, 9/05) 3316 17th St., SF. 863-3061. American, L/D, $$, AE/DS/MC/V.

Medjool doesn't offer much by way of its namesake date, food of the ancient pharaohs, but the pan-Mediterranean menu (which emphasizes small plates) is mostly tasty, and the setting is appealingly layered, from a sidewalk terrace to a moody dining room behind a set of big carved-wood doors. (PR, 11/04) 2522 Mission, SF. 550-9055. Mediterranean, B/L/D, $$, AE/DS/MC/V.

Pakwan has a little secret: a secluded-garden out back. It's the perfect place to enjoy the fiery foods of India and Pakistan. (Staff) 3180 16th St., SF. 255-2440. Indian/Pakistani, L/D, ¢, cash only.

Platanos joins the Mission's Roller Derby of freshened Latino cooking with a potpourri menu of dishes from throughout the Spanish-speaking Americas. Good ceviche, an excellent chile relleno, and of course plantains every which way. (PR, 12/02) 598 Guerrero, SF. 252-9281. Pan-Latino, D, $, AE/MC/V.

Range recaptures the dot-com spirit of 1999 with its generically edgy postmodern look, but the food at its best is honest and spirited. The coffee-rubbed pork shoulder, a variation on mole, is a one-in-a-million dish. (PR, 9/05) 842 Valencia, SF. 282-8283. California, D, $$, MC/V.

Toad's serves burgers and hot dogs with stylish variability in a Mission setting of surprising elegance and a subtle sports-bar spin. Reasonable vegetarian options. (PR, 4/06) 1499 Valencia, SF. 648-TOAD. American, D, $, MC/V.

The Last Supper Club is really a trattoria, and an impressive one, from its half-lit, reddish-gold interior to its always tasty and sometimes astounding food. Don't miss the Sicilian-style ahi tartare on house-made potato chips. (PR, 3/03) 1199 Valencia, SF. 695-1199. Italian, BR/D, $$, AE/MC/V.

Universal Café does California cooking the way it's meant to be done. The mingled influences of Italy, France, and the Pacific Coast result in such unforgettable dishes as split-pea soup freshened with mint, and a grilled flatbread with melted leeks and salume. (PR, 1/06) 2814 19th St, SF. 821-4608. California, BR/L/D, $$, AE/DC/MC/V.

Velvet Cantina has the feel of a Nogales brothel and carefree food to match, though the kitchen has some pedigree and upscale aspirations. The mood is one of raucous conviviality, moving to the heartbeat thump of techno music. (PR, 2/06) 3349 23rd St., SF. 648-4142. Mexican, D, $$, MC/V.

Wild Pepper lurks in a laundromatty-looking building at the end of a quiet Mission lane, but its food is full of peppery fireworks. Especially good: Szechuan crispy beef, ocean party soup Two people can have a feast here and still get out the door for less than $40. (PR, 4/06) 3601 26th St., SF. 695-7678. Chinese, L/D, ¢, MC/V.

» **Woodward's Garden** defies its under-the-freeway setting with a seasonal, reasonably priced California-cuisine menu that explains how a restaurant has managed to

thrive for more than a decade in a seemingly unpromising location. Dim lighting can make reading the menu a chore. (PR, 3/05) 1700 Mission, SF. 621-7122. California, D, $$, MC/V.

MARINA/PACIFIC HEIGHTS/ LAUREL HEIGHTS

Betelnut Peiju Wu is a pan-Asian version of a tapas bar, drawing a sleek postcollegiate crowd with its wide assortment of dumplings, noodles, soups, and snacks. (Staff) 2030 Union, SF. 929-8855. Asian, L/D, $$, MC/V.
Chouquet's gives stylish little spins to all sorts of French bistro standards, and some nonstandards. The general look and tone is sleek and Parisian. (PR, 6/05) 2500 Washington, SF. 359-0075. French, BR/L/D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.
Eunice's Cafe is the place to go when you'd rather have a conversation than make a big entrance. Good soups, sandwiches, pizzas, quiches, with a world of influences. (PR, 10/02) 3336 Sacramento, SF. 440-3330. Brazilian/eclectic, B/L, ¢, MC/V.
Letitia's has claimed the old Alta Plaza space and dispensed with the huge cruise mirror. The Mexican standards are pretty good and still pricey, though they don't seem quite as dear in Pacific Heights as they did in the Castro. (PR, 6/04) 2301 Fillmore, SF. 922-1722. Mexican, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Mezes glows with sunny Greek hospitality, and the plates coming off the grill are terrific, though not huge. Bulk up with a fine Greek salad. (Staff) 2373 Chestnut, SF. 409-7111. Greek, D, $, MC/V.
Quince doesn't much resemble its precursor, the Meetinghouse: the setting is more overtly luxurious, the food a pristine Franco-Cal-Ital variant rather than hearty New American. Still, it's an appealing place to meet. (PR, 7/04) 1701 Octavia, SF. 775-8500. California, D, $$$, AE/MC/V.
Sociale serves first-rate Cal-Ital food in bewitching surroundings — a heated courtyard, a beautifully upholstered interior — that will remind you of some hidden square in some city of Mediterranean Europe. (Staff) 3665 Sacramento, SF. 921-3200. Mediterranean, L/D, $$, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Yaya deals in Mesopotamian cuisine, and that means unusual and haunting combinations of sweet, sour, and salty. The halogen-lit setting of blue and gold includes a trompe l'oeil mural of an ancient Babylonian city. (PR, 6/05) 2424 Van Ness, SF. 440-0455. Mesopotamian, D, $$, MC/V.
Yuzu darts from east to west, but the food at its best transcends categories and the gathering cliché "fusion" and achieves its own sort of integrity. The namesake yuzu, a notably sour Asian citrus fruit, figures throughout the menu, in vinaigrettes, salads, and desserts. The interior is discreetly handsome and rather dimly lit, the hetero vibe resounding. (PR, 4/06) 3347 Fillmore, SF. 775-1873. Cal-Asian, D, $$, AE/MC/V.

SUNSET

Chouchou Patisserie Artisanale and French Bistro is the place to go for pastry, whether you like it as an edible cap on your pot pies or as a crust beneath your fruit or chocolate tarts. French standards — charcuterie, onion soup — are executed with verve. (PR, 12/03) 400 Dewey, SF. 242-0960. French, L/D, $$, MC/V.
Dragonfly serves the best contemporary Vietnamese food in town, in a calmer environment and at a fraction of the cost of better-known places. (PR, 8/05) 420 Judah, SF. 661-7755. Vietnamese, L/D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Eldos is a cross between a brew pub and a taquería, with a few standard American items thrown in. Fabulous chicken posole. (Staff) 1326 Ninth Ave., SF. 564-0425. Mexican/brew pub, L/D, $, AE/DC/MC/V.
Fresca has gone upscale, and its Peruvian menu has been expanded beyond burritos. Still excellent roast chicken, seviche, enchiladas. (Staff) 24 West Portal, SF. 759-8087. Peruvian, L/D, $, AE/MC/V.
Jimisan brings a stylish and value-conscious sushi option to the Ninth Avenue restaurant row. Good cooked stuff too. (PR, 8/05) 1380 Ninth Ave., SF. 564-8989. Japanese/sushi, L/D, $, AE/DS/MC/V.
Jitra Thai Cuisine serves up creditable Thai

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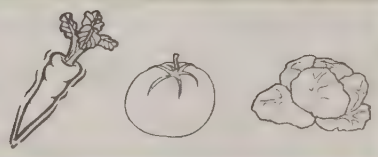
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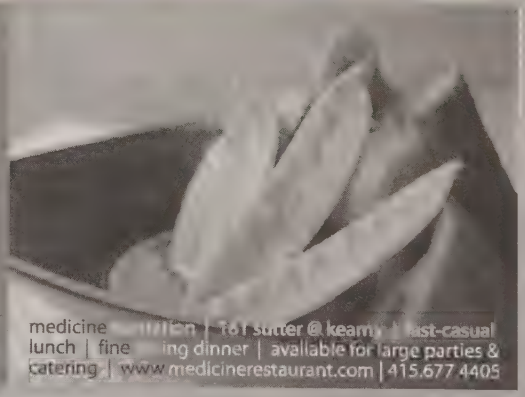
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SUNSET

CONT››

standards in a pink dollhouse setting. (Staff) 2545 Ocean, SF. 585-7251. Thai, L/D, $, MC/V.
Ladda's Seaview Thai Cuisine gazes upon the mists and surfers of Ocean Beach. The kitchen divides its attentions between Thai and American standards. Free parking in the always near-empty lot. (PR, 5/05) 1225 La Playa, SF. 665-0185. Thai/American, B/L/D, ¢, AE/MC/V.
Pomelo Big portions of Asian- and Italian-inspired noodle dishes. If you need something quick, cheap, and fresh, pop in here. (Staff) 92 Judah, SF. 731-6175. Noodles, L/D, $, cash only.
Sabella's carries a famous seafood name into the heart of West Portal. Good nonseafood stuff too. (PR, 8/03) 53 West Portal, SF. 753-3130. Italian/seafood, $, L/D, MC/V.
Sea Breeze Cafe looks like a dive, but the California cooking is elevated, literally and figuratively. Lots of witty salads, a rum-rich crème brûlée. (PR, 4/03) 3940 Judah, SF. 242-6022. California, BR/L/D, $$, MC/V.
Tasty Curry still shows traces of an earlier life as a Korean hibachi restaurant (i.e., venting hoods above most of the tables), but the South Asian food is cheap, fresh, and packs a strong kick. (PR, 1/04) 1375 Ninth Ave., SF. 753-5122. Indian/Pakistani, L/D, ¢, MC/V.
Xiao Loong elevates the neighborhood Chinese restaurant experience to one of fine dining, with immaculate ingredients and skillful preparation in a calm architectural setting. (PR, 8/05) 250 West Portal, SF. 753-5678. Chinese, L/D, $, AE/MC/V.

RICHMOND

Aziza shimmers with Moroccan grace, from the pewter ewer and basin that circulates for the washing of hands to the profusion of preserved Meyer lemons in the splendid cooking. (Staff) 5800 Geary, SF. 752-2222. Moroccan, D, $$, AE/MC/V.
Blue Fin Sushi does indeed have a blue-finned sport fish mounted over the bar and, more interesting, an attached sports bar, Prime Time, where you can enjoy nigiri *and* cheeseburgers. Lots of imaginative, Japanese-style cooked dishes. (PR, 3/05) 1814 Clement, SF. 387-2441. Sushi/American, D, $$, MC/V.
Chapeau! serves some of the best food in the city — at shockingly reasonable prices. The French cooking reflects as much style and imagination as any California menu. (Staff) 1408 Clement, SF. 750-9787. French, D, $$, AE/DC/MC/V.
Katia's, A Russian Tea Room evokes the bourgeois romance of old Russia, and the classic Slavic food is carefully prepared and presented. Silken Crimean port is served in a tiny glass shaped like a Cossack boot. (PR, 12/04) 600 Fifth Ave., SF. 668-9292. Russian, L/D, $$, AE/CB/DC/DS/MC/V.
Kitaro This Japanese restaurant, unlike many others, has a lot of options for vegetarians. (Staff) 5850 Geary, SF. 386-2777. Japanese, L/D, ¢, MC/V.
Lucky Fortune serves up a wide variety of Chinese-style seafood in a cheerfully blah setting. Prices are astoundingly low, portions large. (PR, 4/03) 5715 Geary, SF. 751-2888. Chinese, L/D, ¢, MC/V.
Mai's Restaurant On the basis of the hot-and-sour shrimp soup with pineapple alone, Mai's deserves a line out the door. (Staff) 316 Clement, SF. 221-3046. Vietnamese, L/D, ¢, AE/DC/MC/V.
Pachi's brings sophisticated Peruvian cooking to outer Clement. The menu includes a few Spanish dishes such as paella, but the food in the main emphasizes those longtime Peruvian staples, seafood and the potato, each in a variety of guises and subtly spiced. The setting is handsome, though on the spare side of spare. (PR, 2/05) 1801 Clement, SF. 422-0502. Peruvian, BR/D, $$, AE/DC/DS/MC/V.
RoHan Lounge serves a variety of soju cocktails to help wash down all those Asian tapas. Beware the kimchee. Lovely curvaceous banquettes. (Staff) 3809 Geary, SF. 221-5095. Asian, D, $, AE/MC/V.

BAYVIEW/HUNTERS POINT/SOUTH

Cable Car Coffee Shop Atmospherically speaking, you're looking at your basic downtown South San Fran. old-style joint, one that serves a great Pacific Scramble for $4.95 and the most perfectest hash browns to be tasted. (Staff) 423_ Grand, South SF. (650) 952-9533. American, B/BR/L, ¢.
JoAnn's Cafe and Pantry has gotten some word-of-mouth recommendations as a dive, but it serves upscale breakfasts with decidedly nondive sides like low-fat chicken basil sausage, bagels, and homemade muffins and scones. (Staff) 1131 El Camino Real, South SF. (650) 872-2810. American, B/L, $.
Young's Cafe A restaurant full of cheap, big, decent Chinese food, Young's serves up 15 rice dishes, most of them $2.95, and 64 other standard Chinese things. Only four of those are more than five bucks. (Staff) 732 22nd St., SF. 285-6046. Chinese, L/D, ¢.

BERKELEY/EMERYVILLE/NORTH

Chez Panisse may be an old-timer, but a devotion to the best seasonal ingredients (often organic) grilled on the wood-fired open hearth means the restaurant's distinctive Franco-Cal-Ital signature remains unmistakable, and unmatched. (PR, 2/03) 1517 Shattuck, Berk. Café, (510) 548-5049, L/D, $$; restaurant, (510) 548-5525, $$$; California, AE/DC/DISC/MC/V.
Lalime's is a long-standing institution in East Bay haute cuisine culture, but there's nothing institutional about the attentive service or the creative and gorgeous dishes. (Staff) 1329 Gilman, Berk. (510) 527-9838. French/Mediterranean, D, $$, AE/DC/MC/V.
Sam's Log Cabin Daily special egg scrambles, great griddle cakes and corn cakes, and exceptional scones and muffins top the morning fare, which also includes gourmet sausage and bacon, hot and cold cereals, and organic coffee. (Staff) 945 San Pablo Ave., Berk. (510) 558-0494. American, B/L, ¢, no credit cards. California/Mediterranean, BR/L/D, $$, AE/DISC/MC/V.

OAKLAND/ALAMEDA

Arizmendi is a worker-owned bakery where bread rolls out in seemingly infinite varieties — potato, Asiago, sesame-sunflower. (Staff) 3265 Lakeshore, Oakl. (510) 268-8849. Bakery, B/L/D, ¢. Not wheelchair accessible.
Gerardo's Mexican Restaurant offers all the expected taquería fare. But a main reason to visit is to pick up a dozen of Maria's wonderfully down-home chicken or pork tamales. (Staff) 3811 MacArthur, Oakl. (510) 531-5255. Mexican, B/L/D, ¢–$.
Mama's Royal Cafe Breakfast is the draw here — even just-coffee-for-me types might succumb when confronted with waffles, French toast, pancakes, tofu scramble, huevos rancheros, and 20 different omelets. (Staff) 4012 Broadway, Oakl. (510) 547-7600. American, B/L, ¢. SFBG

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film

Making comics — and adapting them for the big screen — is a tough, funny job, and Daniel Clowes is fully equipped to do it, pictured here (left) in his book-lined Oakland studio. There he pens issues of *Eightball* (right, from "The Death-Ray").

GUARDIAN PHOTO BY CHARLES RUSSO

The class struggle of Daniel Clowes

Ghost World's creator goes back to school and gets back at the academy with *Art School Confidential*

By Kimberly Chun
› kimberly@sfbg.com

A portrait of a celebrated cartoonist as a frustrated young art student: Picture *Ghost World*'s Daniel Clowes — painfully thin, morbidly funny, with a "serious 5 o'clock shadow" that speaks of preoccupations more pressing than the niceties of personal grooming — pretending to take careful notes in his "Light, Color, and Design" class at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn. He's drawing cartoons instead.

"He was doing exactly what I was doing in class," classmate Charles Schneider recalls. "I remember coming up to him afterward and latching onto him." Schneider went on to become a close friend of the *Ghost World* cartoonist's, a comrade in pranks aimed at the local frat house, an early zine publisher of Clowes's work *(Maggotzine)*, Clowes's self-described "muse," and, most recently, the creator of morbid "killer" paintings (including one depicting his chum as a corpse) in Clowes's new strip-turned-flick, *Art School Confidential*.

The two students shared a love of comics, plenty of "pent-up anger," a "mourning of the grim graveness of the modern world" — and the exquisitely discouraging sensation of having their cartooning dreams quashed by '80s-era art teachers unschooled in Art Spiegelman's *Maus* or the Hernandez brothers' *Love and Rockets*. Namely, comics for hip, pop culture–savvy adults that were complex and well developed enough to straddle the worlds of fine art and literature.

So after being told repeatedly by his Pratt teachers to give up his crazed, novel notion of doing his own surreal, kitsch-informed, pointedly hilarious *and* unsettling comics, Clowes decided to give traditional visual art forms the college try.

"At one point I took a sculpture class because I had to, and I'd never done a sculpture in my life," the now 45-year-old cartoonist says, comfortably folded into a chair behind the drawing board at his Lake Merritt–area studio. "I never thought about the principles of 3-D art at all, so it was like a guessing game. 'OK, I'll glue some strips of cloth to a coat hanger — how's that going to fly?' Some weeks I'd get cocky and think, I got it. I figured it out. Then it turned out to be terribly wrong."

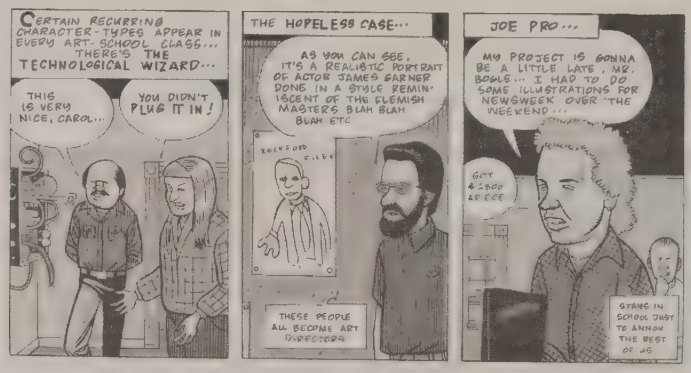
The fresh trauma of being stuck with the "wrong" answer and the humiliation of early rejection, which spiraled into a failed NYC illustration career, found their way into issue seven of the award-winning Chicago native's popular Fantagraphics comic *Eightball*. A howlingly funny, dead-on pseudo-exposé of the academy, 1991's "Art

CONTINUES ON PAGE 72 »

FROM THE SIDELINES BY SARAH HAN

Getting schooled

We asked *Angry Youth Comix*'s Johnny Ryan, *Yikes*'s Steven Weissman (who actually attended art school in SF), artist and illustrator Jay Howell, and *Guardian* cartoonist and calendar editor Sarah Han for their comic perspectives on art school.



The original "Art School Confidential" story took a ruthless stab at capturing stereotypical students (left). The cinematic version does much the same (right), not sparing its protagonist, Jerome (Max Minghella, far right) and his pal Bardo (Joel Moore).

Death and life drawings

One insider's look at the inspiration behind *Art School Confidential*

By Glen Helfand
› a&eletters@sfbg.com

Those of us who, like me, inhabit the tiny international zip code called the art world have a curious relationship to media attention — we crave it as much as we fear the way our insular dialogues may be misrepresented and misunderstood when exposed to the harsh light of the general public. Artists, living or long dead, are so often portrayed in film, TV, and the mainstream press as nutcases who do crazy things like cut off their ears, sheath entire buildings in plastic wrap, sculpt tons of Vaseline into god knows what, and earn pots of money for conceptually rationalized nothingness. Artists, the story goes, often have blimp-size egos and fly into irrational seam-ripping rages when the color doesn't turn out quite right.

Art schools are perceived as training grounds for the above behaviors, and these days, in the midst of a healthy art market, have an additional reputation as factories that produce potential art stars before they even have degrees. I teach in art schools, three of them, and confess to a sense of trepidation about how Terry Zwigoff and Dan Clowes's *Art School Confidential* would portray my world. I gotta say, upon seeing the film, I felt a gleeful identification with the accuracy with which it vividly captures the array of stereotypical art students who attend and toil at the fictional, multidisciplinary Strathmore College, a name that to those in the business will immediately evoke a ubiquitous brand of spiral-bound drawing paper. In early sequences, the fresh students are deposited on campus for the start of the semester — the barefoot, the neurotic, and the goth. Finally, a movie about people like me!

The main character, Jerome Platz, is shown in flashback, dressed up as Pablo Picasso in a striped blue naval-style shirt for an elementary school Halloween show-and-tell. The wide-eyed young student expresses his life wish to be, like that prolific artist, the greatest artist of the 21st century, who also has lots of sex. That he expects to get there at art school by being a figurative painter reveals his problematic artistic naïveté. (The comely portraits he creates are the work of Oakland artist Caitlin Mitchell-Dayton.) In the contemporary dialogue, craft is little without concept. What, as I might ask Jerome in a critique, makes that genre an effective way of dealing with his artistic concerns? What does it *mean*? As in the film, he rolls his eyes in exasperation. Eventually he'll find his attention-grabbing conceptual trope.

Jerome's emotional innocence is visualized in his crush on Audrey, a gorgeous life drawing model who is the jaded daughter of a blue-chip male artist. She beds only rising art stars, regardless of gender. *Confidential* contains an inordinate number of gags about sexual confusion and ambiguous preferences that sometimes seem hammered in a bit too often. While a fellow critic questioned the subtext, the litany of queer jokes struck me as documentary. Art school, after all, is a hotbed of all sorts of experimentation.

The narratives in this art school macrocosm are, true to life, fueled primarily by career envy and resentment. John Malkovich's painting teacher wears too-tight T-shirts and clings to tenure and fleeting youthful success at painting triangles. He flaunts his phone conversations with his art dealer in front of fellow faculty and students, none of whom particularly care. His show falls through. A recent graduate who shot to art star status lectures at his alma mater, sneering at the aspiring artists in the audience that they'll never achieve his success, while a once successful painter, played by Jim Broadbent, lives in a filthy tenement and will spew his withering views of the art world to the young students for the price of a cheap whiskey, which he gulps from a crumpled Dixie cup fished from the trash. Success in this business is all about blow jobs to the right people, the old coot portends. He means smarmy, manipulative art dealers, critics, and collectors, who are distant, unapproachable characters in this narrative.

This is the dark underbelly of the film, though of course, the art world is an ego-based business where we — the critics, artists, dealers, etc. — crave attention and financial reward for our creative acts. *Art School Confidential*'s filmmakers suggest we'll do crazy things to get it. In this melodramatic case, serial killing is confused with serial art. In my experience, it's been a refreshing surprise to see how few students buy into the art star mythology. Their goals are modest — to make a living from their creative pursuits. How they expect to pay back those massive student loans, however, I've often wondered. An underpaying teaching gig at Strathmore, perhaps?

The film more realistically addresses the deep ambivalence art schoolers feel toward those who have a gift as opposed to artists who work hard at technique but never quite get it. A suspiciously normal looking guy in class makes paintings with a naive edge that fires up Jerome for a duel, the prize being kudos, gallery representation, and Audrey's affections. Is artistic development driven by academics or sex? Even in the pricey setting of an upper-division education, the question remains: How can art be taught? Who the hell knows? But *Art School Confidential* had me laughing heartily at the quandary. SFBG

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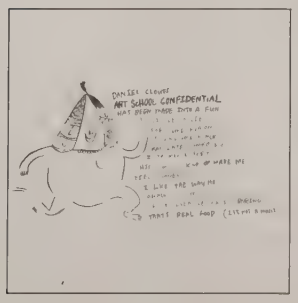

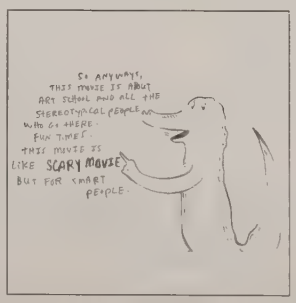

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Daniel Clowes CONT.>>

School Confidential" poked fun at schools that purport to promote original thought yet are essentially lemminglike and conservative, with an acute ferocity that went beyond the revenge of the mild-mannered ink nerds. Who can forget the brief but ruthless 1991 send-up of art schools' "rich guys who draw more than your seven-year-old sister," or that visceral "dreaded model combo — the hideous hirsute hippie girl and her freakish poodle-haired boyfriend."

Clowes hadn't, so in his follow-up to *Ghost World,* the cinematic version of Clowes's early-'90s strip and a collaboration with *Bad Santa* filmmaker Terry Zwigoff, the artist went back to adapt "Art School" for the director, with only a few laugh-out-loud nods to the original comic *and* a much darker, more corrosive eye.

TO LIVE AND WRITE IN LA

Clowes's ability to switch from the solitary lot of a lonely drafting jock to that of a rewrite-ready team player on a bustling movie set seems somewhat superhuman, friend and fellow East Bay comic artist Richard Sala says. "Dan has gone from working in complete isolation to working with truckloads of people," Sala writes in an e-mail. "He's made the transition incredibly well, which is pretty remarkable when you consider how socially awkward most cartoonists can be."

But after Pratt, great things have been expected of Clowes, the anointed heir to R. Crumb's school of wildly imaginative, unsparingly honest, and often misanthropic realism — a strain informed by a deep and loving knowledge of comic history, compulsively honed draftsmanship, and an unforgettable, unique fingerprint. His designs for albums, at least one skateboard, and a failed Gen-X beverage, OK Soda, might comprise a respectable graphic design career all by themselves. But it's his comics that have won him awards, starting with his pop-noir detective series, *Lloyd Llewellyn* (1985 through 1989), and continuing through to *Eightball* (1989 to the present) and story lines such as "Like a Velvet Glove Cast in Iron," "Pussey!," and "David Boring," which draw from exploitation magazines, *Mad* and Clowes's early employer *Cracked,* midnight movies, and bottom-feeders' kitsch culture. Nothing is sacred, including the random, angsty superhero who materializes in Clowes's most recent 2004 *Eightball* story, "The Death-Ray," which weds a moving, delicately handled tale of an affectless orphan outsider with that of a deadly, caped crusader.

THE SOFT, GRAY TRUTH

Between the films, the comics continue to come, though more slowly than before. Still, much has changed since I last interviewed Clowes, in 1997. Back then he lived in the same Rockridge neighborhood as his drawing buddies Sala and Adrian Tomine, and he had just begun to work on the screenplay for *Ghost World* with Zwigoff, then known for his *Crumb* documentary.

Today, signs of Charles Schulz–like comfort abound at his dove-blue home in the Oakland foothills: Plastic toys belonging to Clowes's and wife Erika's two-year-old son, Charlie, are scattered across the porch. A sweet-tempered beagle named Ella snores in a squishy dog bed in the artist's lofty studio, and sitting below a sheet of panels from his next Hollywood-centric *Eightball,* the cartoonist himself looks like the very picture of mild-mannered, soft-spoken, Midwest-born fatherhood, dressed in a pearl-colored sweater with his graying pate.

You just have to overlook a few telling details, like the volumes of *Tales from the Crypt, Twisted Tales,* works by fetish artist Eric Stanton, and the box sets of midcentury men's magazines tucked in among art books on Thomas Hart Benton, Balthus, and Lucian Freud.

Stress may be a factor, but Clowes has been dwelling amid shades of gray for a while, working with Zwigoff, who, like his longtime friend Crumb, lives in a black-and-white world of strong, specific passions for, say, jazz from 1924 through 1931. "They got it totally figured out," Clowes says. "Like, August of '31 — it's all over." Unlike that pair, the Oakland cartoonist says, he's "all over the place. If I had to pick one item in this room to save in a fire, I would have no idea."

As for musical preferences, he's more likely to listen to classical ensembles than the Sub Pop rockers whose albums he once embellished. "I need something soothing in my life," he murmurs. "I'm worried about how I'm going to pay for kindergarten. Kindergarten costs more than two years of college when I went."

The hotshot comic book–movie mogul life — well, it's something of an illusion. "Everybody thinks that *Ghost World* was really popular and made a fortune," he continues, pleasantly. "But it was only in 120 screens at its height, which is nothing. It's what the lowliest Persian documentary gets. They just had no faith in it till it was out in the theaters, and then all of a sudden, it was doing really, really well."

Then a few jets slammed into the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. "Instantaneously, nobody had any interest in the existential troubles of an overprivileged teenage girl," he continues, with the almost satisfied air of having one's worst fears realized. The sales of his *Ghost World* compilation are Clowes's only indication of the film's continuing cult popularity: He continues to sell several thousand a month.

'CON' ARTISTS

After *Ghost World,* Clowes and Zwigoff started casting around for a new story, and the "Art School" comic — which cameoed in the *Ghost World* film in the form of a highly mockable art class and the infamous "tampon in a teacup" — surfaced. Zwigoff liked the unambiguous, pulpy title that spun off the name of the 1958 Russ Tamblyn and Mamie Van Doren B-flick, *High School Confidential,* and he was attracted to the idea of looking more closely at artists.

Much like Zwigoff, we're ready to identify with *Art School* protagonist — and Clowes stand-in — Jerome (Max Minghella, son of director Anthony Minghella) from the start. He's a lovable, talented loser, beaten by schoolyard bullies and then whacked around further during class critiques. But he slowly metamorphoses into a darker, more desperate, increasingly morally ambiguous figure, set on scoring the approval of his washed-up teacher (coproducer John Malkovich in a part written for him by Clowes) and the nude model of his dreams (Sophia Myles). As a serial killer menaces the campus, Jerome undergoes the taunts of his classmates and the jabs of a bitter, drunken graduate (Jim Broadbent), who skewers the student's idol. "Our old friend Pick-asshole: The nasty dwarf who went his whole life without a single original thought. I presume you're joking?"

The movie shifts from black comedy to an even deeper shade of noir — much like, as Schneider puts it, a goth T-shirt that somehow gets even blacker. *Ghost World* may have centered much more on Steve Buscemi's 78-rpm record collector than on its female characters, due to Zwigoff's personal obsessions, Clowes confesses, but the new *Art School* is somehow true to both men's brand of bleak wit.

"In a very real way it's much more Terry's worldview than *Ghost World* is," Clowes observes. "And I thought that we should go there. I don't think you should ever go against something that feels emotional and powerful. It's not necessarily the feel-good movie of the summer. But I don't know if I'm the guy to write the feel-good movie of the summer."

Yet however much Clowes plays Jerome's moral descent for laughs, his vision of art school is far from dishonest, says Oakland painter and San Francisco Art Institute instructor Caitlin Mitchell-Dayton, whose vivid portraits stand in as Jerome's in the film. "I know the movie seems like a really dark parody, but I think it's actually supertruthful and almost doesn't exaggerate. It's the truth, though not the whole truth."

The darkness fell naturally. "If I watch a comedy, after about an hour I just want it to end," Clowes says. And it was a cinch for the screenwriter and coproducer to get

ART SCHOOLYARD BY WEISSMAN

in touch with that old art-school anger and alienation. "That's always there," he continues. "Being a cartoonist, except for the last couple years, was always a frustrating and humiliating field to be in. It was so impressed on me already — none of the big successes of last five years have any meaning for me. It hasn't changed a *thing*. 'Oh, I'm in the *New York Times*' — it doesn't help. My resentment was so deep for so long that I can't shake it.

"Look at Charles Schulz," he adds. "The most successful cartoonist in the history of the medium had over $200 million when he died, and the most beloved cartoonist of all time, and he was *still* bitter about slights when he was a young guy, when people didn't give him a break. I can absolutely relate to that."

Though the *Peanuts* master provides a model for naked frustration, it may become hard for Clowes to keep his cherished sense of outrage alive, as he embarks on other movie projects — including one on some young filmmakers who spent eight years piecing together a shot-by-shot re-creation of *Raiders of the Lost Ark* — and his next edition of *Eightball*. That approval, sought so long ago, has clearly arrived, as has a confidence to step back from the grind of comic production.

"I realized novelists don't feel like they have to do a book every six months. If they take eight years, nobody goes, 'Oh, what a jerk!' y'know," he drawls, taking a sip of cool water. "It's hard to write something that you're comfortable with and then have to draw it. Don DeLillo doesn't have to draw it after he writes it."

But amid all those demands, at home and in Hollywood, does Clowes ever picture turning the tables on those art school teachers and taking on those classes himself? "I get asked to teach now," he says calmly. "I'd rather work in a gas station."

Then his inner-dialogue editor just as quickly steps in. "I shouldn't say that, because I would do it if I really needed insurance some day, but I would be *so* depressed." He has learned one essential thing: "I would be the worst teacher and the angriest, bitterest teacher, who'd take out his frustrations on his students in the worst possible way." SFBG

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Beauty Academy of Kabul

REVIEW Beauty without borders. It sounds like a joke, a subtle mockery of international do-gooding associations — Clinique salesclerks in their "lab" coats set up shop in Darfur dispensing eye defense cream instead of Cipro. But for the women of Kabul, Afghanistan, who've suffered through civil war, Taliban oppression, and continuing insurgency, it represents nothing short of salvation. *Beauty Academy of Kabul* follows the beauty industry–sponsored organization's Kabul-based school from its opening day (complete with machine gun–toting guards) to its inaugural class graduation, with all the requisite culture clashes and life lessons learned. While the notion of the beauty cabal being a creative rather than destructive force seems ironic, these Afghani women have little time for self-indulgent Western notions of feminism. For them, this is about sheer survival — financial *and* emotional. As hippy-dippy instructor Sheila remarks about recent graduate Nazira: "She's a hairdresser. She heals people." It seems like ridiculous hyperbole until you see the throngs of eager customers lined up on the shop's first day open to the public. Unquestionably, it takes true inner beauty and strength to endure the hardships that these brave, defiant women have. But having really good hair doesn't hurt. **(Michelle Devereaux)**

Beauty Academy of Kabul opens Fri/5 in Bay Area theaters.

Film listings are edited by Cheryl Eddy. Reviewers are Robert Avila, Kimberly Chun, Sabrina Crawford, Michelle Devereaux, Susan Gerhard, Max Goldberg, Dennis Harvey, Johnny Ray Huston, Laurie Koh, Lynn Rapoport, and Chuck Stephens. The film intern is Jonathan L. Knapp. For rep house showtimes, see Rep Clock, page 79. For first-run showtimes, see Movie Clock at www.sfbg.com. For complete film listings, see www.sfbg.com.

SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The 49th San Francisco International Film Festival runs through Thurs/4. Main venues are the Castro Theatre, 429 Castro, SF; Kabuki 8 Theatres, 1881 Post, SF; PFA Theater, 2575 Bancroft, Berk; and Landmark's Aquarius Theatre, 430 Emerson, Palo Alto. Satellite venue is Mighty, 119 Utah, SF. Tickets (most shows $7.50-11) are available by calling (925) 866-9559 or visiting www.sffs.org. All times p.m. unless otherwise noted. For commentary, see last week's *Guardian*.

WED/3

Aquarius "Cock Byte: Masters of Machinima" (shorts program) 6:45. *Northeast* 9:15.
Kabuki "Domestic Dramas" (shorts program) 12:30. *Smiling in a War Zone* 1. *Encounter Point* 3:15. *Strangers in the Neighborhood* 3:30. *Smiling in a War Zone* 4:15. *Seeds of Doubt* 4:30. *Underground Game* 6. *Taking Father Home* 6:15. *The Giant Buddhas* 7:15. *Manslaughter* 7:30. *They Chose China* 9. *I Saw Ben Barka Get Killed* 9:15. *Gubra* 9:30. *Play* 9:45.
Mighty "Party: Addictive TV Eats San Francisco" 9.
PFA *The Sun* 7. *The Betrayal* 9:15.

THURS/4

Castro *A Prairie Home Companion* 7.
Kabuki "Drawing Lines" (shorts program) noon. "Youth Gone Wild" (shorts program) 1. *Beyond the Call* 3. *Shooting Under Fire* 3:45. *Sa-Kwa* 4:30. *Delicate Crime* 5. *Workingman's Death* 5:30. *See You in Space* 5:45. *Into Great Silence* 7. *I Saw Ben Barka Get Killed* 7:30. *The Silent Holy Stones* 8. *The Blossoming of Maximo Oliveros* 8:15.
PFA *Bashing* 7. *Iraq in Fragments* 8:45.

OPENING

An American Haunting Donald Sutherland and Sissy Spacek star in this based-on-true-events ghost story. (1:30) *Century 20, Century Plaza.*
Beauty Academy of Kabul See pick box. (1:14) *Opera Plaza, Smith Rafael.*
Hoot Someone important was wasting away in Margaritaville; perhaps director Wil Shriner? How else to explain why this kids' movie (based on the book by Carl Hiaasen and scored by Jimmy Buffett) is so utterly and excruciatingly boring? Logan Lerman plays Roy Eberhardt, the new kid in town in Coconut Grove, Florida. He becomes obsessed with a barefoot boy (oddly named Mullet Fingers) who secretly lives in the community's disappearing wild spaces. Roy joins forces with Mullet, who looks more like a wannabe surfer dude than an eco warrior, and together with Mullet's stepsister Beatrice, they protect the owls living on land due to be bulldozed for Mrs. Paula's Pancake House. It's great that the film tackles environmental issues and that it avoids some of the painful trappings of children's films (there are no CGI owls or "Hoot, There It Is" theme song), but where's the fun? Where's the movie's pulse? Everyone, including Luke Wilson (is his career over?), who plays a bumbling police officer, seems to sleepwalk through *Hoot*'s 90 minutes of sheer agonizing blandness. And, for a movie about owls, our feathered friends have far too little screen time. (1:30) *Century 20, Century Plaza.* (Koh)
Mission: Impossible III J.J. Abrams *(Lost, Alias)* directs you-know-who hell-bent on a you-know-what. (2:06) *Century 20, Century Plaza, Empire, Grand Lake, Presidio.*
One Last Thing. . . A lot of your most vivid high school desires probably seem pretty ridiculous from the vantage point of bill-paying adulthood. At the time, though, they might have seemed worth killing and dying for. That's the premise of *One Last Thing...*, the dying part, at least. Dylan (Michael Angarano) is an average teenage jock from working-class Marcus Hook, Penn., who also happens to have terminal cancer. When a charity offers him a chance to live out his greatest fantasy, he announces on local TV that he wants to spend a weekend with supermodel Nikki Sinclair (Sunny Mabrey). Dylan is convinced he loves her, and on his quest to make his dream reality, she morphs into a bizarre substitute for his dead father (Ethan Hawke). The film is wildly uneven — scenes featuring Dylan's buddies (and medically sanctioned buds) have the pungent whiff of *Entourage Jr.*, and director Alex Steyermark's magical realist touches seem strained, but the addition of the always welcome Cynthia Nixon as the cool-yet-conflicted mom and, surprisingly, Mabrey as the glamorous train wreck full of masochistic guilt add unexpected emotional depth. Oh, and one last thing: He sort of gets his wish. (1:33) *Lumiere, Shattuck.* (Devereaux)
The Promise No stranger to lush historical epics, Chen Kaige tries his hand at the martial arts film. Nodding to the vibrant poeticism of *Crouching Tiger, Hero*, and their ilk, Chen also displays a flair for massive battle sequences that place him somewhere in between Kurosawa and Peter Jackson. The graphics aren't as good as those of Middle Earth and the action isn't as kinetic as that of Kurosawa, but Chen has made a successful, if not great, candy-colored fable that's as interested in melodrama as it is in action. Korean star Jang Dong-gun (of *Tae Guk Gi*) plays Kunlun, a slave with superhuman speed and strength. While disguised as his master, General Guangming (Hiroyuki Sanada), Kunlun saves and subsequently falls in love with the beautiful Princess Qingcheng (Cecilia Cheung). To win her heart, he must fight off the evil Wuhuan (a delightfully prissy Nicholas Tse) and face his troubled past, a bumpy journey with occasionally stunning results. (1:43) *Clay, Piedmont, Smith Rafael.* (Knapp)
Rang de Basanti Partly because her grandfather was a guilt-plagued colonialist enforcer, aspiring Brit filmmaker and Gwyneth Paltrow look-alike Sue (Alice Patten) arrives in Delhi determined — despite lack of funding, crew, or cast — to make a movie about early martyrs in India's struggle for independence. She has one ally in spirited Sonia (Soha Ali Khan), and soon several others in Sonia's crowd of fellow university students who never seem to crack a book or enter a classroom. That handsome male quintet, led by Indian superstar Aamir Khan, are too busy riding motorcycles, cavorting drunkenly, raising fists in the air, and otherwise looking like a "rebel" lifestyle commercial. Nonetheless, Sue decides they're ideal to play 1920s Punjabi revolutionist Bhagat Singh and his followers in her "documentary." The cynical lads have a hard time at first relating to their idealistic forebears. Then they get really, really into it, turning from apathetic party boys into a righteous protest and assassination squad. Director-coscenarist Rakeysh Mehra's nearly three-hour opus gets more and more outrageous after its intermission, drawing heavy-handed correlations between the original anti-imperialist movement and citizen disgust toward today's widespread corruption. Daring on several levels by Bollywood standards, this populist melodrama may seem corny and coarse by our own. Then again, can you even imagine a Hollywood movie in which the heroes take out Donald Rumsfeld? Because the equivalent happens here, and the film pretty much shrugs, "Yes, killing is bad — killing leaders who let others be killed for profit isn't *that* bad, though." *Rang de Basanti* may be over the top, but with its attractive cast, splashy production, A.R. Rahman songs, and people-rise-up! message, this is pop radicalism whose excesses are rather endearing. (2:40) *Balboa.* (Harvey)
Workingman's Death This five(-and-a-half)-chapter documentary examines manual labor of the most backbreaking variety: Ukrainian coal miners scraping out a dangerous living; Indonesian sulfur miners pausing from their toxic-looking quarry to pose for tourist cameras; Pakistani workers philosophically approaching the task of tearing apart an oil tanker ("Of course, this is a shitty job, but even so we get along well"); and, in the film's most graphic segment, Nigerian butchers slogging through an open-air slaughterhouse. A Chinese factory and a factory-turned-park in Germany are also on the tour. Without narration, the film places emphasis on its images, which are often surprisingly striking. (2:02) *Roxie.* (Eddy)
A Year Without Love Thirtysomething French tutor and aspiring poet Pablo Perez (Juan Minujin) is not having a great year. He's living in a cramped apartment with a disagreeable aunt, both of them still dependent on his father's financial support. The lover he left behind in France upon returning home to Buenos Aires recently died of AIDS; Pablo's own T cells are free-falling toward zero. His doctor wants him to get on a drug cocktail including the dread AZT, which Pablo resists, though admittedly his own vitamin and herbal regime isn't pulling its weight anymore. His publication prospects, like his romantic ones, seem to be nil. Then he casually drifts into a local gay S&M bondage scene, which provides a sense of belonging as well as an object of infatuation in devilish, muscle-bound chrome-dome Martin (Javier Van de Couter). Adapted from a memoir by the real Pablo Perez (who makes a cameo appearance), this terse, somber but steadily intriguing drama sidesteps the usual sensational approach to kink — wherein somebody invariably "goes too far," as if all sexual power games were just a cover for snuff fantasies. Instead, director-coscenarist Anahi Berneri (a woman, by the way) works up some genuine eroticism while also capturing the sense of emotional as well as physical release many find in dominance-submission play. The nonending is an annoyance, but *A Year Without Love* is a deceptively low-key movie that leaves a lingering impression. (1:35) *Castro.* (Harvey)

ONGOING

Akeelah and the Bee What's with all the spelling bee movies already? OK, so there have only been three in about as many years, but given the rarefied nature of the subject, it feels like a veritable glut. Of course, the gladiatorlike quality of the competition, usually involving that ready-for-meltdown species known as the preteen, can make for high drama — witness the brilliant 2002 doc *Spellbound*. But last year's *Bee Season* was a clunker. *Akeelah* ranks somewhere in between: predictable and overly packaged, yes, but also fairly satisfying. It's hard to fault

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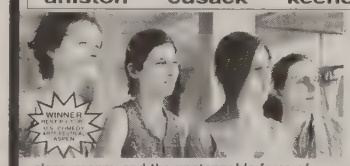

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ONGOING

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a film where a working-class African American girl (Keke Palmer) takes center stage because she's precocious and smart. Or one that schools her in the wisdom of W.E.B. Dubois by way of a cantankerous, perfectionist coach (Laurence Fishburne). But it's also difficult to praise a movie when its most noteworthy aspect is who helped bankroll it — namely, Starbucks. At least *macchiato* didn't make it onto the list of championship round-approved words. (1:42) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Century Plaza, Grand Lake, Orinda, Presidio, Shattuck.* (Devereaux)

American Dreamz (1:47) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20.*

The Benchwarmers (1:20) *Century 20.*

Brick Watch out, *Donnie Darko*, there's a new kid on the '80s-crazed, teen cult-movie block. Once you get past the somewhat off-putting and too-clever-by-half dialogue that flies off the mouths of the high school molls, gumshoes, and gangsters in writer-director Rian Johnson's debut feature, you can begin to unravel this noir's many mysterious pleasures, an undertaking that could easily take a minimum half-dozen viewings if you have, say, all the time in the world. At first color-me-impressed glance, I can report that Joseph Gordon-Levitt has made just the right leap from his soulful turn in *Mysterious Skin* and that his performance in this movie is sure to function as an A-list calling card much in the same way that playing a certain doomed budding bunnyman helped truly launch the career of Jake Gyllenhaal. I can note that Zora Nehetner isn't exactly Mary Astor in *The Maltese Falcon*, though the idea is a fine one. And I can definitely say that *Brick* gives Lukas Haas the type of fitting role in an excellent movie that he's been deserving but not receiving for close to two decades. Without a doubt, David Lynch is a huge influence on Johnson, who has that director's knack for creating heavy atmosphere — rooms that carry the memory of death — and for breaking up that unease with hilarious non sequiturs. (1:50) *Embarcadero, Shattuck.* (Huston)

The Celestine Prophecy (1:56) *Lumiere, Shattuck.*

Crossing Arizona (1:36) *Roxie.*

Duma (1:40) *Smith Rafael.*

The Fallen Idol (1:35) *Smith Rafael.*

Friends with Money (1:28) *Albany, Embarcadero, Empire, Orinda, Piedmont.*

Game 6 (1:27) *Roxie.*

Hard Candy After prolonged chat-room flirtation, photographer Jeff (Patrick Wilson) meets 14-year-old Hayley (Ellen Page) in a café, finding she's the Lolita of every jailbait aficionado's dreams — an almost too-perfect mix of schoolgirl awkwardness, naiveté, and precocious sexual aggression. She even strong-arms him (well, it doesn't take much) into taking her back to his place in the LA hills on their first "date." It's a secluded, expensively moderne spread decorated largely with the provocative portraits of young girls that have made his name. Jeff insists he's never, ever had actual physical relations with any of the under-18 models. Still, he's brought Hayley here alone, let her bust out the vodka, and start behaving with inebriated abandon. If you've read anything about *Hard Candy* you'll already know what's coming. (If not, insert Spoiler Alert here.) Suffice it to say the "innocent" little girl soon turns tables on the possible would-be seducer who's over twice her age. When cocktail-drugged Jeff regains consciousness, he's tied down and in for a very long afternoon of accusation, terror, torture, maybe worse. *Hard Candy* is cleverly written (Brian Nelson), sharply directed (David Slade), and acted with remarkable skill under the circumstances. It means to shock, and does, with some notably unpleasant stretches (especially for male viewers). But it's also the kind of movie that you may realize, five minutes after the lights have gone up, has pretzeled its own logic every melodramatic which way in order to supposedly expose the brutal truths about a "controversial" subject (i.e., pederasty). How many 14-year-olds can boast world-class acting skills, the ingenuity of a master criminal, and the fiery verbal rhetoric of Catherine MacKinnon, Andrea Dworkin, and company? Hayley isn't a credible character any more than *Hard Candy* reflects sexual abuse realities. Both are elaborate contrivances that, for all the Lolitas-got-a-gun-now posturing, ultimately serve ye olden exploitation-movie sensationalism. *Showgirls* thought it was about empowering women too. (1:39) *California, Opera Plaza.* (Harvey)

I Am a Sex Addict (1:38) *Balboa.*

Ice Age: The Meltdown (1:30) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20.*

Inside Man (1:37) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Grand Lake, Shattuck.*

Kinky Boots "The *sex* is in the *heel*," Lola (*Dirty Pretty Things*' Chiwetel Ejiofor) asserts with a throaty purr in this boas-to-brogues tale from the UK. A brassy, burned-out drag-cabaret singer, Lola works the London stage to keep herself in the requisite four-inch stilettos. But when Northampton shoe factory owner Charlie Price (Joel Edgerton) accidentally finds himself on the wrong end of her swinging handbag, she's yanked wig-first into a world of dour, small-town factory workers and their boring, sensible shoes. It seems the Price factory is badly in the red, so, with the help of Lola's design expertise, Charlie cooks up a desperate plan to market unbreakable high-heeled footwear to London's ample drag contingent. Based on a true story, *Kinky Boots* falls squarely in the vein of all those working-class, bootstrapping English dramedies of recent years (perhaps taking *bootstrapping* to new levels of literalness). While the film as a whole may not aspire to much beyond a workmanlike level of solid craftsmanship, the mesmerizing Ejiofor supplies it with the necessary equal parts red vinyl flash and fabulous, Dietrich-worthy pathos. Forget Sienna Miller and that upcoming Edie Sedgwick biopic — *this* factory girl can punch a time card like nobody's business. (1:46) *Lumiere, Shattuck.* (Devereaux)

Lucky Number Slevin (1:50) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Shattuck.*

Mountain Patrol: Kekexili (1:29) *Balboa.*

The Notorious Bettie Page (1:40) *Bridge, Clay, Shattuck.*

Roving Mars (:40) *Metreon IMAX.*

RV Eventually, family vacations cease to be enjoyable. In our early days of wonder, we treasure every moment with our parents, eagerly absorbing all that they show us. As we grow older and become more aware, however, we realize that Dad is, to put it mildly, embarrassing. His jokes haven't changed in years and, as it turns out, aren't funny. For at least a decade, Barry Sonnenfeld and Robin Williams have steadily fallen into mediocrity and irrelevance. Thus, it's fitting that they collaborate on this tripe about a crazy family vacation in an RV, a gaudy vehicle that the teenage characters (including pop princess Jojo) appropriately dub "the rolling turd." *Arrested Development*'s Will Arnett eats up his few scenes, and a handful of shots remind us that Sonnenfeld really did shoot the early Coen movies. But mostly we just cringe in the corner, feeling sorry and ashamed. (1:55) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Century Plaza, Grand Lake, Presidio, Shattuck.* (Knapp)

Scary Movie 4 (1:23) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20.*

The Sentinel Offering as much surprise and substance as a State of the Union address, *The Sentinel* strives to elicit the same rah-rah response, without the inevitable public backlash. Though detailing a presidential assassination plot, it avoids politics — painting the president (David Rasche) as a benign figure whose most controversial statement is that the US should sign the Kyoto Treaty. The movie instead focuses on the Secret Service: After veteran agent Pete Garrison (Michael Douglas) learns the assassination plot hinges upon a mole within the service, he realizes he's the fall guy. Blackmailed with photographs of his secret affair with the first lady (Kim Basinger), Garrison goes underground to find the traitor and evade his estranged protégé, agent David Breckinridge (Kiefer Sutherland), and his rookie partner, Jill Maren (Eva Longoria). Though predictable and slight (Sutherland's in 24 mode; Longoria does little besides fill out her suit), *The Sentinel* works for what it is: an unremarkable Douglas vehicle that's hard to dislike. (1:45), *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Oaks.* (Knapp)

Silent Hill (2:07) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Century Plaza.*

Stick It With writing credits on *Aquamarine, First Daughter*, and queen bee of the genre *Bring It On*, Jessica Bendinger couldn't be more ready to direct a teen girl flick. But unfortunately, *Stick It*, her debut effort (which she also wrote), feels like *Bring It Vaguely*. Missy Peregrym plays Haley Graham, a former gymnastics champ who left the sport in disgrace and spends her days extreme bike riding with the boys. After a run-in with the law, she's court-ordered to attend a gymnastics academy run by an (unintentionally) creepy Jeff Bridges. There, the extremely ripped Haley towers over the academy's pip-squeak ditzes, flaunting her bad attitude — she's kind of like Gabrielle Reese crossed with Avril Lavigne. Badass, sorta; interesting, no. Predictably her teammates warm to her and the film drags to a clichéd ending. In some scenes (gymnasts flipping through the mall in prom dresses; a balance beam hip-hop routine), Bendinger demonstrates that she understands her audience. If only she would give it credit. (1:43) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Century Plaza.* (Koh)

Take the Lead (1:48) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20.*

Thank You for Smoking (1:32) *California, Embarcadero, Empire, Piedmont.*

Transamerica (1:43) *Opera Plaza.*

Tsotsi (1:34) *California, Opera Plaza.*

United 93 Filmed for the most part outside London, and shot by Brit Paul Greengrass *(The Bourne Supremacy), United 93* is nonetheless a wholly American tale — one that still reverberates with enough unsettling intensity that it's questionable whether or not audiences will want to see it on the big screen. In 50 years, perhaps, *United 93* won't sting so much; it'll be easier to view it in the context of other Hollywood docudramas mined from national tragedies (and, fortunately, *United 93* is directed with far better taste and skill than, say, *Pearl Harbor*; we'll see how Oliver Stone's *World Trade Center* fares when it opens later in '06). As you'd expect, a palpable sense of inevitability haunts *United 93*'s every frame. As the minutes of Sept. 11 tick by, we

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don't really get to know the film's characters as individuals. Instead, *United 93* switches between the doomed flight's crew and passengers (all of whom, including the four jumpy hijackers, are represented by actors chosen for their physical resemblance to the actual people) and the increasingly frantic folks on the ground (several air traffic controllers and military types play themselves). Though it focuses on the horror, and heroism, wrought by Sept. 11, *United 93* also highlights the day's ill-managed official response; even after WTC-bound American Airlines flight 11 becomes a confirmed hijack, flight 93 idles on the tarmac, eagerly awaiting takeoff. (1:40) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Century Plaza, Presidio, Shattuck.* (Eddy)

V for Vendetta (2:10) *1000 Van Ness.*

Water A tumultuous shoot (protestors in India forced the production to shut down and eventually relocate to Sri Lanka) and an underrepresented subject — the plight of traditional Hindu widows — make *Water* destined to garner praise as "an important film." Furthermore, Deepa Mehta's seventh feature, the third in her elemental trilogy (following *Fire* and *Earth*), looks the part: It wraps its historical plot (1930s India) and feminist message in wonderfully lush, vibrant cinematography. Unquestionably, it deals with a deserving topic, and mostly does so impressively. In strict Hinduism, widows – some of them prepubescent – have traditionally been shunned, sent away to live in isolated communities, or ashrams. Mehta, through the eyes of eight-year-old widow Chuyia (newcomer Sarala), renders the lives of these women with great detail and compassion. That their destinies should be different is obvious; unfortunately, the film repeatedly relies on a male character to verbally sum up its message, effectively undercutting it with an unnecessary indulgence. (1:54) *Albany, Embarcadero, Smith Rafael.* (Knapp)

The Wild (1:34) *1000 Van Ness, Century 20, Grand Lake.*

The World's Fastest Indian (2:06) *Smith Rafael.*

REP PICKS

"For the Love of It: Sixth Annual Festival of Amateur Filmmaking" See Picks, page 28. *PFA.*

The Seven Percent Solution Herbert Ross's strange 1976 film of screenwriter Nicholas Meyer's novel imagines Sigmund Freud (Alan Arkin) treating Sherlock Holmes (Nicol Williamson) for his cocaine addiction (the title referring to Holmes's self-prescribed dosage). Alternating between subtle comedy, expressionistic fever dreams, and detective story, the movie progresses beautifully before nearing its finale, which features some amusing, if not fully compelling, swashbuckling action. As with any Holmes story, Dr. Watson (Robert Duvall) narrates — beginning as a paranoid Holmes rambles about supposed criminal mastermind Moriarty (Laurence Olivier), who's actually a harmless teacher from the detective's past. Determined to rid Holmes of his cocaine addiction, Watson conspires to lead the sleuth to Vienna and the leather couch of Dr. Freud. During treatment, another of Freud's patients, actress Lola Devereaux (Vanessa Redgrave), stumbles into trouble. Holmes, Freud, and Watson are on the case. This isn't a great film, but it's a charming '70s artifact with an improbable cast led by a particularly strong Williamson. (1:53) *Jewish Community Center of San Francisco.* (Knapp) **SFBG**

Tom Cruise (presumably) saves the day yet again in *Mission: Impossible III*, out Fri/5.

PHOTO BY STEPHEN VAUGHAN

The following is contact information for Bay Area first-run theaters. Please go to www.sfbg.com for a complete list of showtimes. See Rep Clock for information on rep houses and special film programs.

SAN FRANCISCO

1000 Van Ness 1000 Van Ness. 931-9800

Balboa 38th Ave/Balboa. 221-8184, www.balboamovies.com.

Bridge Geary/Blake. 267-4893, 777-FILM, #025.

Century 20 Junipero Serra at John Daly Blvd, Daly City. (650) 994-7469.

Century Plaza South San Francisco, Noor off El Camino. (650) 742-9200.

Clay Fillmore/Clay. 267-4893, 777-FILM, #096.

Embarcadero Center Cinema 1 Embarcadero Center, promenade level. 267-4893, 777-FILM, #154.

Empire West Portal/Vicente. 661-2539.

Four Star Clement/23rd Ave. 666-3488.

Kabuki 8 Post/Fillmore. 931-9800.

Lumiere California/Polk. 267-4893, 777-FILM, #097.

Metreon Fourth St/Mission. 1-800-FANDANGO #705.

Metro Union/Webster. 931-1685.

Opera Plaza Van Ness/Golden Gate. 267-4893, 777-FILM, #028.

Presidio 2340 Chestnut. 776-2388.

Stonestown 19th Ave/Winston. 221-8182.

Vogue Sacramento/Presidio. 221-8183.

OAKLAND

Grand Lake 3200 Grand, Oakl. (510) 452-3556

Jack London Stadium 100 Washington, Jack London Square, Oakl. (510) 433-1320.

Parkway 1834 Park, Oakl. (510) 814-2400.

Piedmont Piedmont/41st St, Oakl. (510) 843-3456, 777-FILM, #020.

BERKELEY AREA

Act I and II Center/Shattuck, Berk. (510) 843-3456, 777-FILM, #012.

Albany 1115 Solano, Albany. (510) 843-3456, 777-FILM, #013.

AMC Bay Street 16 5614 Shellmound, Emeryville (510) 457-4262.

California Kittredge/Shattuck, Berk. (510) 843-3456, 777-FILM, #015.

Elmwood 2966 College, Berk. (510) 649-0530.

Emery Bay 6330 Christie, Emeryville. (510) 420-0107.

Oaks 1875 Solano, Berk. (510) 526-1836.

Orinda 4 Orinda Theater Square, Orinda. (510) 254-9060.

Shattuck Cinemas 2230 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 843-3456, 777-FILM, #024.

UA Berkeley 2274 Shattuck, Berk. (510) 843-1487. **SFBG**

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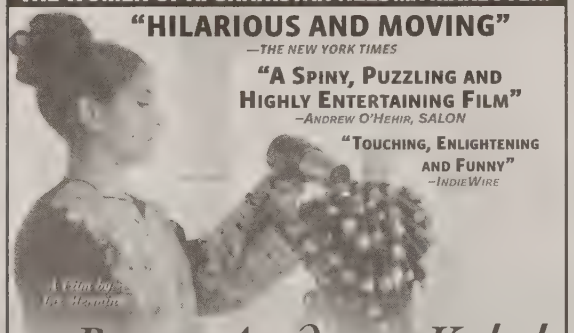

STARTS FRIDAY MAY 5

SAN FRANCISCO
Landmark's Opera Plaza
(415) 267-4893

BERKELEY
Landmark's Shattuck
(777) FILM #024

FREMONT
Century Cinedome 8
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MONTEREY
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-Jim Emerson, ROGEREBERT.COM
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-Jim Ridley, SAN FRANCISCO WEEKLY

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John Travolta schools the man-animals in *Battlefield Earth*, the designated masterwork at this week's Dark Room Theatre "Bad Movie Night."

PHOTO BY PIERRE VINET

Schedules are for Wed/3 through Tues/9 except where noted. Double features are marked with a •. Director and year are given when available. All times are p.m. unless otherwise specified.

ARTISTS' TELEVISION ACCESS 992 Valencia, SF; (415) 824-3890, www.atasite.org. $5-8. ANSWER Film Series: **Innocent Voices** (Mandoki, 2004) Thurs, 7:30. Other Cinema: "Evolution Control Committee and Bran Flakes do Thereoke," Sat, 8:30.

BAY MODEL 2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito; (415) 332-3871. Free. "Tiburon Film Society presents": **Champions on Wheels** (Shafir), Sat, 1.

CASTRO 429 Castro, SF; (415) 621-6120, www.castrotheatre.com. $6-10. "Stanley Kubrick Series": **Eyes Wide Shut** (1999), Wed, 1:30, 4:45, 8. San Francisco International Film Festival, Thurs. See Film Listings. **A Year Without Love** (Berneri, 2005), May 5-11, 7, 9:30 (also Sat-Sun, Wed, 2, 4:30).

CHRISTOPHER B. SMITH RAFAEL FILM CENTER 1118 Fourth St, San Rafael; (415) 454-1222, www.cafilm.org. $5.50-9.25. **Duma** (Ballard, 2005), Wed-Thurs, call for times. **The Fallen Idol** (Reed, 1948) Wed-Thurs, call for times. **The World's Fastest Indian** (Donaldson, 2005), Wed-Thurs, call for times. **The Beauty Academy of Kabul** (Mermin, 2006), May 5-11, call for times. **The Promise** (Chen, 2005), May 5-11, call for times. **Water** (Mehta, 2005), May 5-11, call for times.

CINEMA HEAVEN ENCORE Curry House, 1040 Columbus, SF; belle_diamond@hotmail.com. Free. Cinema Heaven Encore presents classic American and foreign films (from 1932 to '85), Thurs, 7: e-mail for film title and to RSVP.

CLAY THEATRE 2261 Fillmore, SF; www.8tales.com. $8. "Muscle Cars vs. Ladies from Mars: Eight Tales in the Late-Night Tradition": **The Poseidon Adventure** (Reame, 1972), Fri-Sat, midnight. Saturday night's screening includes a "Shelly Winters Memorial Triathlon."

COBALT SUN STUDIOS 411-A Coloma, Sausalito; (415) 381-4123. $8. "Tiburon Film Society presents": **Bye Bye Havana** (Seyfert), Fri, 7.

DARK ROOM THEATRE 2263 Mission, SF; www.darkroomsf.com. $5. "Bad Movie Night": **Battlefield Earth** (Christian, 2000) Sun, 8.

GOETHE-INSTITUT 530 Bush, SF; www.goethe.de/sanfrancisco. $5. "Soccer Film Series": **Liberated Zone** (Baumgarten, 2002), Tues, 7:30.

ISTITUTO ITALIANO DI CULTURA 425 Washington, SF; (415) 788-7142, www.sfiic.org. Free. "Marcello Mastroianni: A Great Actor beyond Fellini": **Big Deal on Madonna Street** (Monicelli, 1958), Tues, 6:30.

JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER OF SAN FRANCISCO 3200 California, SF; (415) 292-1233, www.jccsf.org/freudfest. Free. San Francisco Jewish Film Festival and JCCSF present: "Cinema on the Couch: Freud's Influence on Film": **Century of the Self, Part Two** (Curtis, 2002), Mon, 7; **The Seven Percent Solution** (Ross, 1976), Tues, 7.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE 57 Post, SF; (415) 393-0100, rsvp@milibrary.org (reservations required as seating is limited). $7. "Happy Hundredth John Huston!": **The Treasure of the Sierra Madre** (1948), Fri, 6:30.

PFA 2575 Bancroft, Berk; (510) 642-5249, www.bampfa.berkeley.edu. $4-8. "Film 50": **Ed Wood** (Burton, 1994), Wed, 3. San Francisco International Film Festival, Wed-Thurs. See Film Listings. "PFA Preservation Screening": **By Rail and Trail: New Orleans to the Golden Gate over the Southern Pacific Route**, Thurs, 5:30 (free screening). "A Tribute to Jean-Claude Carrière": **Diary of a Chambermaid** (Buñuel, 1964), Fri, 7; **The Milky Way** (Buñuel, 1968), Fri, 9; **The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie** (Buñuel, 1972), Sat, 6:30; **The Phantom of Liberty** (Buñuel, 1974), Sat, 8:30. "For the Love of It: Sixth Annual Festival of Amateur Filmmaking," curated by Melinda Stone, Sun, 3. "Film and Video Makers at Cal: Works from the Eisner Awards Competition," Sun, 5:30. PFA is closed May 8-24.

RED VIC 1727 Haight, SF; (415) 668-3994. $4-7. **MirrorMask** (McKean, 2005), Wed, 2, 7:15, 9:25. **Following Sean** (Arlyck, 2005), Thurs-Mon, 7:15, 9:15 (Sat-Sun, 2, 4).

ROXIE 3117 and 3125 16th St, SF; (415) 863-1087, www.roxie.com. $4-8. **Crossing Arizona** (Mathew and DeVivo), Wed-Thurs, 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9. **Game 6** (Hoffman, 2006), Wed-Thurs, 7, 8:45 (also Wed, 2, 4:30). **Workingman's Death** (Glawogger, 2005), May 5-11, 7, 9:20 (also Sat-Sun, Wed, 2, 4:30).

SAN FRANCISCO CINEMATHEQUE Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission, SF; (415) 978-ARTS, www.ybca.org, www.sfcinematheque.org. $5-8. "Aftershocks: Experimental Films and Animation from Taiwan," curated by Anita Chang, Sun, 7:30.

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY 100 Larkin, SF; (415) 557-4461. Free. "Asian in America": **The Wedding Banquet** (Lee, 1994), Thurs, noon. **A Blinding Flash of the Obvious: A Film about Fairness and How It Was Won**, Tues, 6:15. SFBG

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PENINSULA
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Gilroy - Platinum 7
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Milpitas - Century 20 Great Mall
Morgan Hill - CineLux Hangar Station Stadium 8
Mountain View - Century Cinemas 15
San Jose - Century 20 Oakridge
San Jose - Century Capitol 16
San Jose - CineArts@Santana Row
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San Jose - Camera 12
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Santa Clara - AMC Mercado 20

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SUMMER GUIDE

The Guardian's annual comprehensive guide to the summer's fairs, festivals and films.

May 10, 2006

Highlights this year include: a movie preview bonanza, scrumptious outdoor dining shenanigans, what to wear to the cold cold beach (and what to drink once you get there), festival/outdoor party roundup and more.

As a special addition, the official Mission Creek Music festival program guide can be found in the Summer Guide issue.

So dive in.
the water's [illegible]

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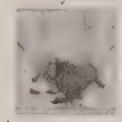

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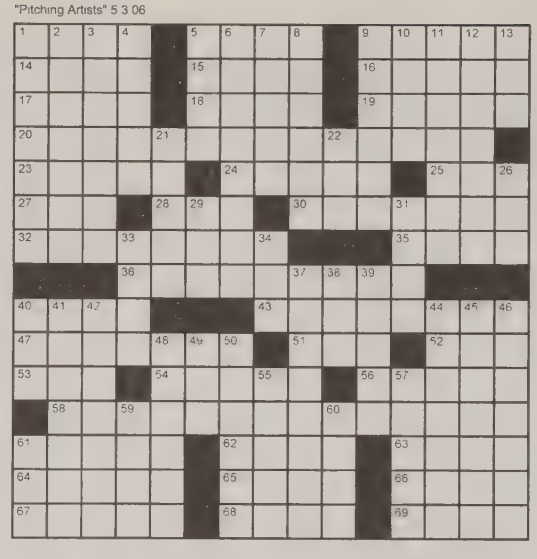

Across

1. Canned brand
5. Rainbow shapes
9. Committee type
14. Duplicitous one
15. Swiss and Dijon locale
16. Mach 4 target
17. Beauty's foil, en français
18. Trojan War hero
19. Love and War
20. Playroom toy endorsed by a Beastie Boy?
23. Library taboo
24. Astronaut's outfit
25. "Catch-22" pilot
27. ___ Jima
28. M.A., e.g.
30. Banc of Blockbuster
32. Insect consumer
35. They have their pluses and minuses
36. Hanukkah toy endorsed by a hip-hop producer?
40. "Dongs of Sevotion" musician
43. Freddy Adu's club
47. Palindromic speed demon
51. Quite a stretch
52. FDA guideline
53. Niagara River prov.
54. 1300 hours
56. "___ or lose it"
58. Fiesta toy endorsed by a '70s songwriter?
61. Iconic wrestler/actor
62. Charge for a nanny
63. Altar promises
64. Singly
65. Cassini who designed for Jackie
66. Santa's pipe
67. Busybody
68. 2002 outbreak
69. Boba

Down

1. Manufactured enemy in "Wag the Dog"
2. Canine command
3. Act condemned by 396 U.S. cities
4. Two-tone snacks
5. An Aleutian island
6. Adjust
7. Extended families
8. Old West weapon
9. One-armed baseball player Jim
10. Beloved
11. Chewbacca's owner
12. Get Chinese, say
13. Amoeba buys
21. Aromatic wood
22. Step on it, old-style
26. Dr.'s orders
29. Takeoff approx.
31. Buster lead-in
33. Advantage
34. Stop tone
37. Source of rocks?
38. Ben and Jerry, e.g.
39. Lassitude
40. Sign of a smash
41. It's covered on the street
42. Figure that stops traffic?
44. Sewing machine part
45. Bleep
46. Researcher's raw material
48. Eye site?
49. "___ day now . . "
50. Odd pages
55. Biology classes?
57. Scratch's partner
59. Rave's partner
60. Fixes, as an exchange rate
61. Course for a horse

Last week's solution

F	S	T	O	P		G	N	P		P	E	A	C	H
A	M	I	S	H		R	I	O		H	Y	D	R	A
Q	U	E	U	E	T	I	P	S		D	E	M	U	R
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*Call (330) 328-3264 for free hints to the puzzle

double team psychic dream

APR. 26-May 2

ARIES

March 21-April 19
Aries, you've reached total system overload. It's like you're having your own little personal Mercury retrograde. You're managing too much, and we suggest that you start prioritizing responsibilities, placing your obligation toward your own emotional needs at the top of the list.

TAURUS

April 20-May 20
Whatever it is you're dealing with looks pretty frickin' monumental, Taurus. You're going to have to figure out how to make self-loving choices in the midst of all the bullshit. The least you can do is make sure you're feeding yourself at least one good meal a day.

GEMINI

May 21-June 21
Gemini, there appears to be some sort of conflict happening in your relationships. What's making it worse is your total reluctance to tackle this problem, either out of fear of making everything worse or just a plain ol' aversion to confrontation. But being open, honest, and direct is the only way to fix things.

CANCER

June 22-July 22
If you've been waiting for a time to be scandalous and risqué in the pursuit of getting what you want, it's now, Cancer. Go on, sleep your way to the top. Put yourself out there and snag what or whom you want like a Venus flytrap. It's a great moment, with lots of sexy amour for the snatching.

LEO

July 23-Aug. 22
Leo, we have a prescription for your ennui. It's a party. We think it would be great, on so many levels, for you to gather together all the people in your life and watch what magical and surprising things occur. Don't strategize who would benefit you by their attendance; compile your guest list from the gut.

VIRGO

Aug. 23-Sept. 22
We know a family who did this adorable thing, Virgo. They planted fruit trees in their yard on the birth of each of their kids, so their kids could gauge their often imperceptible growth by the more obvious stretching and blooming of the trees. We suggest you do something similar to tangibly mark your progress.

LIBRA

Sept. 23-Oct. 22
Our psychic eyes show us a poor little emotionally tapped Libra. Are you going to start taking care of yourself or what? Can you trust that your life won't fall apart if you cease your consistent, perhaps manic, tending to it in order to nurse your frayed well-being?

SCORPIO

Oct. 23-Nov. 21
It's time for Ego Investigation, Scorpio. Send in the squad. You need to take a serious look at how you have been handling your ego and honestly assess if it's helping or hurting you. We think you might actually need some good, healthy ego energy to help take care of yourself in the coming weeks, so make sure that thing is working right.

SAGITTARIUS

Nov. 22-Dec. 21
Sag, we're sorry to report that your horoscope is boring as hell. You're destined to have a week steeped in the mundane, which, come to think of it, may make the next seven days not only boring but shitty for a thrill-seeker like yourself. Make sure you're dealing with the minutiae of your life to prevent petty frustrations.

CAPRICORN

Dec. 22-Jan. 19
There are positive changes happening, Capricorn. Stop rolling your eyes. We know you think that the phrase *positive change* puts the moronic in oxymoronic, but you're wrong. Your fear of change is preventing you from seeing how great all these new shifts are and puts you in danger of sabotaging them.

AQUARIUS

Jan. 20-Feb. 18
Aquarius, we gave you a vague warning about overextending yourself last week, but apparently we need to bang you over the head. Or, rather, we would bang you over the head, but your life is already smacking you upside it. Deal with the balls you already have in the air; don't introduce any new ones to your act!

PISCES

Feb. 19-March 20
You've always had the *potential* to be efficient and productive. Pisces. You've just resisted it, like a teenage stoner skipping class for another bong rip in the quad. But the time has come to say goodbye to your under-achievin' ways and embrace your capacity to harbor ambition. Think big. SFBG

By Michelle Tea and Jessica Lanyadoo

Award-winning writer Michelle Tea and intuitive counselor Jessica Lanyadoo have been fraternizing with fate together for the past seven years. Call Lanyadoo for an astrology or tarot reading at (415) 336-8354. Write to Double Team at lovedoubleteam@hotmail.com.

› men seeking women

NICE IRISH GUY
63-year-old gentleman, blond/blue, nice guy. Desires to meet DWF, 55-60, friend ship maybe LTR. If this interest ☎409110

ARCHEOLOGIST/DOCTOR
New in town. Building new home. Need advice with furnishings. Someone who likes art, live music, good restaurants, sailing on weekends. Preferable San Francisco resident ☎909915

GIVE ME A CALL
SM, 30, 5'7", 160lbs, healthy, employed, friendly, fun, enjoys movies, time with friends, sports, the bars. ISO nice affectionate lady for friendship, fun, possible LTR ☎912400

GIVE IT A TRY
Single male, 55, active, healthy, laid-back, loving, ISO a SW/HF, 45-50, who enjoys walking, movies, music and much more. ☎919887

GIVE ME A CALL
SHM, 33, 5'5", 150lbs, healthy, employed. Seeking a nice, affectionate lady, 18-45, for friendship, possible romance. ☎920780

LOTS OF LOVE 2 GIVE
SWPM, 45, financially secure, fit, healthy, looking for SB/WF, 25-40, for love, cuddling, sharing romantic times. Hoping to find the right one. ☎925437

ISO STRONG, INDEPENDENT...
Partner. SWM, 60, strong, intelligent, tolerant, good-looking. Looking for an attractive SF, 40-60, who is intelligent, sensitive with an honest, open nature ☎931587

950 AREA
DWM, 35, 5'7", 160lbs, brown/blue, very easygoing, honest, kind, Cancer, smoker, seeks sweet, honest, kind woman, 22-35, petite a+, race unimportant. ☎933415

GET OFF (ON) THAT PHONE NOW!
Open minded SWM, 42, smoker, interested in cyber and phone sex, loves role play and age play. Seeking woman, 18-50, to join me. ☎933940

ISO DISCREET RELATIONSHIP
WM, 37, Oakland/East Bay area, Virgo, smoker, seeks discreet, no-strings-attached physical relationship with a woman, 18-50, smoker, any race. ☎934538

ISO GENUINE HEART
SWM, 43, Pisces, N/S, seeks an attractive (inside and out), genuine, loving woman, 20-42, with integrity, for wining and dining, travel, and good conversation. ☎934795

BIKER & SUN WORSHIPPER
Retired SWM, 66, 5'9", 175lbs, gray (but not bald), perfect hearing in 1 ear, N/S, seeks WF, 50-65, N/S, for dating ☎918025

GOT YOUR HEAD TOGETHER? CALL
SBM, 21, 5'6", 155lbs, handsome, clean, Pisces, N/S, loves music, movies, and walks. Seeking cool woman, 18-50, race irrelevant ☎939671

STRAIGHT ON FOR YOU
SBM, 6', 190lbs, black/brown, slim build, N/S, engineer, art lover, enjoys sports. Seeking outgoing, kind AF, 20-48, N/S, who tells it like it is. ☎941882

Looking for girl wanting to share home with older guy that needs help and wants or needs the help if this is something you might want to try email me ☎950562

I'M WAITING!
Male, 39, looking for women around my age to eat, drink and be merry. Ethnicity not as important as intelligence ☎951513

ARE YOU MISS KNIGHT?
Handsome, fit Latino male, 36, caramel complexion, looking for Latina or black female, 18-36, for friendship and possible relationship. ☎949736

OFF TO THE RACES
Rambunctious stallion, 40, seeks paramour filly for canter. Can offer plenty of oats, but San Francisco housing does not allow for separate stalls! ☎935861

LET'S TALK
Chemical engineer, likes fishing, camping, dancing, movies, walking the beach, playing sports. Qualities in partner: outgoing, funny, nice, slim AF, 5'7", the max weight 165lbs. ☎881167

SWM, seeking activity partner with similiar interests - I live in Napa and have a great job which I love and go to the gym every night.- my new year is looking up and I want to complete the picture with a good partner - David ☎896443

LIVE LIFE GOLDEN
SBM, 5'11, heavy set and handsome. Looking for a lady that loves life and having fun without alot of drama all the time. ☎900064

LIVE OUT YOUR FANTASY
SM,34, good looking, personable,professional that would like to occasionally meet with older SF to act out any fantasy you may have. Please contact me for conversation! ☎906830

AS AND HEALTHY
L ove the outdoors hike,bike,walk,talk. Smile and have a nice time.Roofer just not into games. ☎913795

LET'S GET TOGETHER
SWM, 45, handsome Exec visiting Bay area (San Jose) Feb 14-16, seeks dinner date with intelligent, attractive SF for intelligent conversation, food, wine and I'm fun, fit, a good listener. ☎918948

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DAY TIME LOVER
passionate man seeks daytime lover. Often free during days and would love to spend quality time with a passionate woman. I love touching, kissing, licking, sucking, tasting, and orgasmic penetration ☎921880

ETHIOPIAN WOMAN BOUGHT BY SBM FOR LTR
SBM 30, 6'2, handsome, smart, athletic, clean cut, sense of humor, and works full time seeks beautiful Ethiopian SF who enjoys playing pool and live entertainment. ☎922282

ARE YOU THE ONE
Hello,I ma single blk.male.that's just looking for a new female lady friend someone who is drama free. ☎926103

› men seeking men

LEAN AND MASCULINE
friendly, mellow SWM, 44, would like ongoing friendship/relationship, with another man similar in age, who's lean and masculine. I enjoy films, hiking and intimacy. ☎886605

ADONIS BLACK EX-MARINE
Monogamous, affectionate, cuddly, healthy, and physically sensational, wishes to meet a 60+, mature gent. We won't know unless we try. ☎331245

DADDY SEEKING YOUNGER GUY
Open-minded GHM, 50, seeks young man, 18-45, who wants wisdom and spiritual growth from your gay big brother/dad, a guide to today's gay world. ☎896362 @ mohamed101

STRIP HARD!
Clothed, masculine, fit guy gives you orders and gets you on your knees. Safe, painless role-play fun for trim-waisted guys born after 1960. ☎753246

HORNY GUY HAS A NEED...
to suck a big one. I'll do it your way. Make me your slave. All calls answered. ☎753249

HOPING TO MEET
easygoing, masculine looking, SWM, 39, on the submissive side. Enjoys spending time with a caring guy, 18-60, that I can treat with admiration, respect, love. ☎924561 @ motorsport2

FOREIGN, NON-WHITE
Friendly, open-minded WM is looking to meet another slim guy of a different country or race, 18-48, for friendship and intimate fun. ☎753256

GREAT HEAD FOR MASTER...
straight, bi or 1st timers 35+. Mellow SWM, 52, HIV-, clean, patient, fun. Own place. No reciprocation required. Be clean, no long hair, drugs. ☎754037

BAY BOTTOMS!
Easst Bay guy looking for fun. Discreet top, clean, good-looking, straight acting men from East Bay area or just the Bay area. ☎927079 @ bottombol77

ATTRACTIVE AND FRIENDLY
Asian male, smooth, in-shape, interested in receiving full-body (head to toe) butt-tocks, chest, feet, etc massage, from experienced masseurs, on a regular basis.Calls answered! ☎754686

ORAL COMMUNICATION
Interested in meeting mature and discreet men, including seniors in the east bay. ☎778621

POSSIBLE LTR
Attractive, caring, secure, educated SWM, 60, 5'11", 200lbs, smoker, enjoys travel, home time, kissing. Seeking small-framed, smooth SAM, 50+, affectionate, versatile, smoker, with free time. ☎788723

SLIPPERY RECTAL EXAM!
Doctor massages your butt hole, jacking you off. Spanking, rimming, sniffing? Shoot big time! Uncut cocks/hairy asses. 20-45/all sizes ☎791965

WILL YOU BE THERE?
Single male, 41, Aries, N/S, seeks single man, 65-85, who is affectionate, loving, caring, to share quiet evenings and soft music. ☎792325

GOOD-LOOKING
Married BiWM, 49, 5'6", 195lbs, dirty blond/blue, clean-shaven, looking for guys in Marin to play and have fun with. ☎805514

TOOTHLESS CS...
wants your dick in my mouth. Nice-looking, senior GWM, 5'8", 160lbs, seeks straight, bi or gay WM to service. ☎833128

SEEKING OLDER AND WELL-ENDOWED
Very attractive BiWM, 38, seeks discrete relationship with older gentleman in the San Francisco area. I am fit, very attractive, fun, discrete, disease free. ☎834990

BLACK MALE?
Nice-looking, senior WM, 63, 160lbs, fit, very clean, seeks new experience as bottom. Prefer like-minded BM. ☎847825

VERSATILE GUY
Married BiWM, 6'1", 180lbs, good-looking, blue-collar guy, clean, safe, discreet, seeks versatile male, H/W proportionate, for giving and receiving oral/anal fun. Race unimportant. ☎853257

FREE MASSAGE
Strong-handed, straight-acting SWM, 45, offers a soothing, sensual touching experience for trim, masculine man, 18-47 ☎860940

CRAVING AFFECTION?
Slender, masculine SWM, 45, N/S, seeks similar man, 20-45, race open, who would like a caring new friend to talk to and hold on to. ☎862331

NAKED IN THE SHOWER
Slender, masculine WM, 45, N/S, seeks similar man, under 45, N/S, any race, who'd enjoy good clean fun with warm water and bar of soap. ☎863423

NUDE PSYCHOTHERAPY
Lay on my couch naked while amateur psychiatrist listens to your problems and sexual fantasies. SWM, 45, seeks trim-waisted man, under 45. ☎867597

TOOTHLESS CS
Nice-looking, clean-cut, healthy senior with no teeth will do your weenie a big favor. Masculine GWM seeks straight, bi or gay, masculine man. ☎872884

BUCK AND SUCK
Let's drink a few beers, talk about sex, and play strip poker. BiWM, 44, trim tight build, masculine, N/S, seeks same, 20-44. ☎875314

ORAL SUBMISSION
Tight-bodied DM, 43, wants a tight-bodied, married, bi guy to strip me and tell me what to do to make you feel good all over. ☎877130

SOMEONE HANDSOME WHILE
Good-looking WM seeking first time experience with married male who would like to dress me up as a female and share fantasies with. ☎883058

JUST FOR FUN!
Married SHM, 5'10", 190lbs, black/brown, D/Dfree. Seeking SW/BM, 35-50, who enjoys anal/oral, D/Dfree, attractive, no strings attached. ☎884585

MAKES FANTASIES?
Strip search? photography? strip poker? or you name it! Male, 44, slender body, straight-acting, looking for the same ,under 45, for safe role play fun ☎891177

VERY KIND, OPEN-MINDED GUY
Very outgoing WM, 22, 5'8", 160lbs, attractive, N/S, loves drawing, clubbing, and learning new things in the bedroom. Seeking man, 18-29, with great soh. ☎894692

STRAIGHT OR BI WANTED
Easygoing, slim guy, 44, seeks masculine, safe, discreet guy, with slim body, who would like to get together for one or more erotic sessions. ☎897273

LOOKING FOR YOU
BiWM, 35, seeks same in a SM, 21-45, for discreet get togethers. I am 5'7", 160lbs, brown/blue, open-minded and down-to-earth. ☎902793

FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING
MHM, 18, 5'11", 185lbs, D/Dfree. Seeking an older SWM, 30-45, who is attractive, has a good shape, preferred married men, open-minded and fun to be with. ☎931562

I'M READY
virgin male seeking tuition into sexy and kinky acts must be D/D free and patient as I am a new commer to this act of love making. all calls answered ☎940157

DOMINATE ME
Straight-looking divorced guy, 41, good build. Needs a guy like me to call me names and worship your cock and butt. Hairy a plus. ☎753236

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
Easy going, masculine, professional man of color (blk/ncan) seeking other similiar men of color for friendship or whatever comes up.... ☎886136

YOUNG? CURIOUS?
This older gentleman, discreet, safe, versatile, has many years of experience with erotic pleasure. Do the women in your life leave your fantasies unfulfilled? ☎904696

LET'S GET TOGETHER
GWM, 39, looking to meet and date intelligent, creative guys my age or a little older ☎919852

ARE YOU WITH ME
SM, 35, South-american guy, 148 lbs, 5'6", 8" uncut dick, dd free, no pnp, easy going, travel, open mind, looking to get sucked, rimmed and more. ☎924107

LET'S GET TOGETHER
married guy, seeking married guy for occassional sex sessions. 6' 190 white brn/brn athletic 36 7". Hit me up and let's get together. ☎934826

› women seeking women

Femme - Talkable. Inquisitive.Laugh easily Want to know new people over a cup of coffee. Therapist ,homebody, Love family dog lover, Love swimming, sober Social justice important . Seeking woman comfortable in her own body. ☎953757

GORGEOUS AND CLASSY
BF, 39, very elegant, professional, compassionate, affectionate. Looking for bisexual woman, any race, for friendship, shopping, movies, dancing. ☎520951

TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD
PBF, 34, absolutely femme, enjoys getting to know people, sports, jazz, and living life to the fullest. Seeking SF, 18-45 ☎956238 @ KATTYMO

I NEED A FRIEND
GWF, 46, lives in Southern California, seeks GWF, 42-52, for friendship. I need someone to show me around the bay area. N/S, rare drinker. ☎767575

SPECIAL LADY
SHF, 52, N/S, seeks fun, special single woman, 39-70, to share shopping, museums, concerts, dining out. ☎784008

BIG APPLE TRANSPLANT
SBF, 18, 5'4", 138lbs, smoker, loves Jamaican cuisine. Seeking BF, 19-25, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. ☎892389

SWEETY
Good-hearted SF, enjoys shopping, dining out, more. Seeking easygoing SBF, 18-39, N/S, no kids, to share good times talks, friendship and fun. ☎937270

ARE YOU JAPAN
SF, seeking an attractive, honest woman who is not into games and enjoys movies, walks on the beach, theatre and enjoys life. ☎911790

› three's company

3 IS NOT A CROWD
Attractive, healthy couple seeks female for fun and exploration. No experience needed, just an open mind. ☎829691

SEXY LATINO
white Latin guy, 28, fit, seeks BiF or couple. Looking for a partner to go to swing clubs with? It's me! ☎753054

MIXED COUPLE
Seeking another married, mixed couple like us, AF and WM, who are middle-aged, nice, sexy and enjoy hot, nude occasions together. ☎753064

TRIPLE PLAY!
Handsome, discreet, easygoing, imaginative, well built BiWM, Seeks attractive couple, also a lady to swing with. ☎753067

SEEKING SF
East Bay business man seeking SF, in Livermore/Dublin area, for mutual, beneficial encounter. No strings attached. ☎787126

MARRIED COUPLE SEEKS FEMALE
Happily married couple (male 44, female, 36), seeks a sexy woman to enjoy fun with Wife interested in another woman. Man watches or joins. ☎789442

EXOTIC & EROTIC COUPLES NEEDED
Tall, sexy, athletic male, brown/blue, seeks couples and discreet woman of any age and race, for discreet fun in the Bay area ☎841380

HANDSOME SENIOR
SWM, 63, 165lbs, fit, very clean, discreet, seeks fit, mature couple who would like to be orally serviced. ☎860950

LOVING COUPLE...
AF, 28 and WM, 48, seeks special woman to share our life with. We want stability and LTR. Must be kind, open, honest and sincere ☎876461

LET'S GET TOGETHER
SM, 47, Attractive and cultured , loves women and is bi-curious, seeks a male-female couple for erotic interludes. ☎895811

› tv/ts

EXPLORATION & EXPERIMENTATION
Male, 27, cross-dresser, enjoys wearing short skirts, high heels, nylons. Seeking someone similar who enjoys modeling, dressing up as a woman, and acting the part ☎817155

TREAT ME LIKE A LADY
Pretty white male-female TG, 33, 5'10", slim, auburn hair, pre-operative, seeks masculine, dominant B/WM, 30s, 5'10"+, linebacker build a+. ☎894027

LOOKING FOR LOVE
transgender female, that is of the african american race. looking to love her for who she if this ad is for you than send an e-mail ☎950466

Single Adult male seeking friendship with beautiful trans genders mtf. ☎958624

LATIN T-GIRL
Seeking masculine male to have fun with. Let's get together and have some good times ☎855585

› missed connections

BIBLY! WE MET AT 111 MINA...
you gave me a yoyo and phone number, still have the yoyo, lost the phone number. Let's hook up, drink, sing The Foo Fighters. ☎815421

WHERE: CORBIS COMEDY CLUB
You: Blue/Green striped shirt, short hair, great smile, front row for Wand Sykes
Me: Brown shirt, short hair, front row . Wanted to slip you my number but was not sure if your companion was a lover or frind. Would like to meet you. ☎909446

I SAT ACROSS
FROM YOU ON THE 36 GEARY ON 6/13
You- brown hair, blue star necklace brown skirt, flip flops, beautiful. Me- blue cap, sunglases, Jean jacket, headphones. I took off my sunglasses, looked at you as you left the bus. Great energy between us. Lets get together. ☎919220

CAN WE TALK?
we started a nice conversation about Dostoevsky and Vonnegut on the flight into Oakland. I'd love to continue it.. ☎930570

› friends/activities

"PASS THE MOLASSES"
A tongue-in-cheek dining adventure. Let's excavate gastronomical gems in the Bay area together, from neighborhood spots to putting on the Ritz. ☎732457

LIKE TO SING?
Singer seeks other singers, male or female, as well as acoustic guitarists, for singalongs to the music of the Beatles, Eagles, etc. ☎996276

NEED BOOKWORMS
ISO BM bookworms, 25-42, for intellectual conversations. Clean background. Must like history, politics, current events. Prefer Leos or Virgos. Must be nerdy and wear glasses!!! ☎922768

› kinksters

WHAT I WANT
SM, 21, 5'10", clean-cut, looking for sexy, hot, outgoing lady open-minded unencumbered for intimate encounters and adult times. ☎950687

EROTIC VOODOO
Creole BBW, dominant, with huge fat butt, seeks WM, 30-70 must be obedient, hungry, grateful, servant. Oral, anal, toy play. Must be interviewed for opportunity. ☎802472

I'M WAITING 4 YOU
Married , submissive SF, 42, full-figured likes travel, relaxing, sunshine, music, camping, beaches, ISO sexy, sweet lady for some adult fun. Role play, toys A+. ☎843083

GENEROUS MALE
Slim, mature, very well-endowed male, 48, seeks reliable, non-flakey female, busty and/or full-figured preferred, for mutually beneficial relationship. ☎849064

SEXY LADY
Beautiful, plus-sized SBF, 5'7", 44, busty seeks attractive, intelligent, financially secure, generous gentleman for dating and fun. I'll make sure you have a great time! ☎851829

DOMINANT ATTITUDE
Full-figured black lady with huge butt, seeks hungry, submissive W/AM, 25-70, for female worship, mutually beneficial arrangement, fantasy fulfillment, adult toy play. ☎851838

I LIKE YOUR HAIR TONIGHT!
Very attractive cross-dresser, very feminine, very young-looking bi-WM, seeks cute, adventurous bi-females/bi-couples/bi-males, for intimate bi-action. Please be sexy, safe, discreet, and sweet ☎885724

KINKY
Sexy, open-minded, safe, discreet HM, 40, seeks Filipino females, 35-65, in need of oral pleasure ☎951017

SENIOR MALE
Fit, nice-looking SWM, late 60s, 167.5lbs, very sexual, seeks small fit, senior lady who still enjoys sex. Race open. ☎955043

LIFE-LONG PARTY
WM seeking younger women for life-long party! Must be sexy, good-looking, and live life in the fast lane. Must be good in the bedroom or in the back seat of my car! ☎956340

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› women seeking men

NICE BLACK WOMAN
BF, 47, 5'1", 150lbs. respectful, easygoing, N/S, N/D, enjoys walks on the lake, working out, flea markets, dining out, movies, traveling. Looking for a WM, 47-60, friendship first. ☎495547

LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE
Extremely fat, married, middle-aged white housewife, about 225lbs. seeks WM under 50, for weekday daytime intimacy. Be healthy, discreet and patient, please. ☎747004

CREATIVE AND SPIRITUAL
Attractive SAF, artist/designer seeking a creative, spiritual man, 50-60, 5'9"+, N/S, race open, who appreciates the arts, and ethnic restaurants, world travel, is open minded and adventurous ☎711596 @ Sophia22

I AM THE ONE
SBF, 64, seeks SWM, 58-70, secure, N/S, healthy, 6'1"+ able to travel occasionally. Friendship first. ☎943658

WINE AND DINE
SWF, 54, 5'5", 145lbs. intelligent, secure, warm, romantic, likes music, cooking, movies, walks. ISO SWM to hang out with, and maybe more, of good character. ☎423646

SWEET AND SINGLE
Female. 59 8, 5'5", blonde/blue, N/S, easygoing, enjoys academics pursuits, appreciate nature, specially desserts, oceans, and gardens. Seeking man, for friendship, maybe more ☎434857

ATTRACTIVE GIRL
Petite SHF, financially secure, enjoys music, dancing, walks, art, good conversation. Seeking well-groomed A/WM, 55-63, N/S, for LTR. San Francisco peninsula area only, please. ☎651494

A+ LOCAL! NEWLY SINGLE!
SF, 23 yrs. Cute, fit, blonde, looking for a great sense of humor and a cute smile. Call 800-489-2132 xZ016.

ISO WARM AND GENTLE MAN
SF, young 50's, tall, slender, brown/brown, warm, sensitive, enjoys swimming, bicycling, reading, hiking, cooking, cuddling, symphony. Seeking polite, fit, caring, mature, educated, traditional S/DWM, 46-59, 5'11"+, N/S, light drinker, for friendship, fun, and great companionship. ☎960214

HEALTHY SUGAR DADDY SOUGHT
Bi female, 5'6", 115lbs. golden brown skin, sexy, fit, beautiful, intelligent and classy, seeking arrangement. Age/race unimportant. Respectful and discreet ☎760454

SEEKING BLACK MALE
W/BF, 65, 5'4", 150lbs, financially secure, good sense of humor, enjoys jazz and easy listening music. Seeking BM, 58-70, for friendship, maybe companionship. ☎770081

INFATUATION
I am looking for an extremely gracious, monetanly endowed older gentleman, who wishes to zealously spoil a most magnificently piece of arm candy. ☎787292

STRICT BLACK NUNS
Sisters of the order of St. Dominadora. Seeks submissive repair man as boy toys, cross-dressers can work in drag. Surrender to a higher Female Power. ☎809149

GENTLE BEAUTY SEEKS...
generous gent. Adventurous, sexy woman, 30s, seeks kind, classy gentleman for mutually beneficial arrangement. Sincere inquires only, please. ☎842147

SEXY SEXY GIRL!!!
Playful, mischievous, blonde, petite, sexy SWF, 43, seeks arrangement with discreet, generous gentleman. Let's get together. ☎856271

RAISING YOUR CALL
DPF, 56, 5'5", 155lbs, mother with grown children, fair complexion, strawberry-blonde hair, well-educated, business owner, enjoys scenic drives, day trips. Seeking similar gentleman to share life, love, lasting happiness. ☎856651

SEXY ASIAN LATINA YAHVANAL...
seeks benefactor. SAF, 35, 5'4", 128lbs, full lips, almond-shaped eyes, waist-length hair, N/S, seeks mutually beneficial discreet arrangement with PM, 40-60, N/S. ☎869123

ISO BEST FRIEND W/ CHEMISTRY!
SF, 54, Young-at-heart seeking perfectly imperfect playmate for long walks, lots of laughter, movies, concerts, and magical moments! ☎878813

ARE YOU AS TIRED OF...
being lonely as I am? SHF, 51, N/S, likes to cook. Seeking an honest, hard-working WM, 50-50, N/S, for fun and friendship ☎857963

LET US BE FRIENDS
Attractive, hispanic american female, 63, slender, petite, beautiful brown eyes, nice-looking, caring, independent, enjoys the beauty of nature, seeks retired, tall, Insh Catholic male ☎861416

SENIOR MAN WANTED...
by interesting, attractive lady, into movies, books, music, publishing and keeping trim and fit. ☎887312

ISO APPLE TRANSPLANT
SBF, 18, 5'4", 148lbs, Leo, smoker, up front, realistic, fun, with goals and ambitions, seeks same in BM, 19-24. ☎893915

OPERA, THEATRE, ETC.
Attractive and personable SWF, blonde/blue, seeks SWM, 55-70, N/S, companion for San Francisco concerts, theatre, etc. Could extend into other activities and venues. Let's explore. ☎895354

GET IN TOUCH
SWF, 28, 5'3", 120lbs, black/brown. Looking for a SWM, 30-50, who is outgoing, romantic and down-to-earth. ☎699923

LET'S TALK!!
SAF, 40, 5'3", N/S, N/D. Looking for a SW/HM, 30-40, who enjoy traveling, dining out, music, working out, animals and cuddling. ☎900316

TALL, TENDER, LYRICAL LASS
Looking for fellow traveler with intellectual and emotional depth, 50+, 5'10"+, I'm a theater/film buff, love psychology, philosophy, the arts, healing, travel, cute canines. ☎906415

SWEET, YOUNG-LOOKING
SBF, 44, seeks caring, honest, easygoing SWM, 34-50, who was born in another country. ☎779955

☆ BEAUTIFUL GREEN EYES
Pretty, slender SJF, 48, athletic, artistic, adventurous, sensual, highly educated. Loves animals, the arts. Seeks SWM, 46-60, attractive, athletic, well-educated, seeking partnership of the mind, body and soul. Must live near Palo Alto. ☎909464

I NEED A HERO
SBF, 34, no kids, classy, sexy, seeks SWM, 34-45, confident, professional and sweet. He: wants a LTR and kids. Not looking for perfection, just someone perfect for me. ☎931514

I CAN LOVE U BETTER
Retired SWF, 65, 5'4", gray/dark, Anes, N/S, enjoys dining out, animals. Seeking WM, 63-75, N/S, easygoing, caring, with positive attitude, for friendship, possible romance. ☎934351

FRIENDS FIRST
SWF, 5'4", 140lbs, enjoys pets, home, movies, and dining out. Seeking nice, humorous, down-to-earth SH/WM, 50-69, for friends first, possible LTR. Hayward. ☎943818

FIT AND CLASSY
SF, 50, petite, financially secure, looking for a Caucasian gentleman 48-60, financially secure, honest. No game playing, please. ☎960246

Hi, I live in Hawaii. 54 years old, an artist, interested in fun companionship, long walks and talks, sharing day's adventures. Traveled to Europe, like European men and American men, love to cook and watch movies. ☎950020

looking for a kinky male to fill my needs and wants and als every desire ☎880722

TALL, SWEET...
Down-to-earth woman resembles Princess Di, enjoys outdoors, general activities. Seeking same in vice-free male, 40-50, for relationship ☎883760

› men seeking women

LET'S MEET
Male, 54, Pisces, N/S, enjoys walking, beaches, and home life. Seeking woman, 40-60, for LTR. ☎950203

WHY NOT?
Loving, honest, affectionate SM, 38, 6', blonde/hazel, enjoys weekend getaways. ISO beautiful lady inside/out, to get to know, share fun and see what happens next. ☎951036

HANDSOME GUY
Handsome, physically fit man, 41, looking to date and have fun with 60+, slim, attractive female. Hope to hear from you. ☎951758

A GOOD GUY
SWM, 60, 6'1", 220lbs. dark, graying hair, dark eyes, ISO attractive, shapely, intelligent, low-key, SF, 40-59, loyal warm and sincere, N/S, without children and/or baggage. ☎954358

ARE U OUT THERE?
SBM, 38, 6'2", 215lbs, athletic build, likes baseball, looking to meet a cool, sweet lady to kick it with and have a good time. ☎954925

LOOKING TO START A FAMILY
Asian sweetheart, slender and nice, desired by SWPM, 59, 5'7", 150lbs, athletic build, bald/blue, home and business owner Having children is goal. ☎949161

♡ LOOKING FOR A HEART...
of gold. SWM, stable financially and emotionally, one woman man, warm and loyal, seeking LTR. Redwood City. ☎952894

RESIGNATION REQUIRED FULL...
travel, adventure, romance. This feature writer, actor, and world traveler, 61, with good looks, sharp wit, seeks pretty, caring gal, 40-65, who loves blues music. ☎275549

SEEKING TEDDY LADY
Tall, successful SWPM, 45, Scorpio, college grad, good sense of humor, affectionate, seeks sweet, smart, attractive AF, 25-45, for romance and LTR. ☎301605

IVORY SEEKS EBONY
SWM, 47, Virgo, seeks mature, African-American S/DF, 32-60, for friendship, possible LTR. ☎400491

DOCTOR, WRITER
Just returned from 2 years in Europe and Greece doing research w/children, anxious to reacquaint with city/nightspots/art scene. Interested in meeting young, thinking, well-read woman. ☎405757

SHARE WHAT YOU KNOW
SBM, 65, 5'11", retired educator, active, slim, knowledgable, creative, kind and caring gentleman. Seeking a charming pretty lady, 50s-60s, to share similar interests ☎462878

INDIGO SKIES
Tall, fit, SBM, 50, seeks like-minded SF, 40-55, who's affectionate, open-minded, adventurous, secure, who enjoys movies, theater, dining, music, comedy and travel. Race open! ☎626723

FEMAL PLEASURE
SWPM, 43, 5'7", brown eyes, Virgo, seeks attractive SWF, 25-45, nice smile, for coffee, friendship, possible LTR. ☎689017

LOOKING FOR U
SAM, seeks female for friendship and possibly more. My personality is like 20's, but not immature, casual, a bit shy ☎695428

BEAUTIFUL BROWN EYES...
and Italian curls mix with this high-flying eagle's talons of steel, which are committed to personal growth, creative expression, unlimited journeys of the heart, soul. ☎719804

FOOT FETISH
Attractive male, 42, honest, generous, discreet, seeks attractive female with shapely legs and pretty feet for foot worshipper's fantasy. ☎753007

TAKE A CHANCE
HM, 33, 5'9", likes dancing, the beach, dining out and more. Looking for beautiful WF, 18-35, who enjoys doing the same things. ☎753666

CAN MAN IN SAN FRANCISCO
DBM, young 45, 5'11", 225lbs, N/S, good-looking, creative, open minded, outgoing, likes art, animals, music, dancing, soul. Looking for attractive, sexy, shapely woman for relationship. ☎759471

HELLO LADIES
Married male, 48, brown hair, green eyes, 5'7", seeks petite married white, Hispanic, Asian lady, 30-50, for discreet sensual fun. Hope to hear from you. ☎775819

BRIGHT FUTURE
Male, 18, still learning how to write music but thinks it's only a matter of time till he produces a song, seeks woman, 18-23, N/S. ☎795807

EAST BAY LOVE SEEKING
Gent, 50s, 5'10", blond/blue, fit, is seeking arrangement with attractive woman, prefer petite. ☎823167

PASSION FOREVER AND TODAY
Exciting Italian, 72, healthy, muscular and financially secure, seeks female, 41-61, for LTR. ☎840059

SINGLES, LOVERS, YOUTHFUL...
Good-looking SHM, 49, N/S, seeks attractive East Indian or A/HF 26-37, N/S, for fun, LTR, and maybe family, too. Call to fulfill our mutual desires. ☎841503

A SIMPLE COUNTRY BOY
SM, 58, 5'8", 160lbs, fit, retired military, enjoys classic rock, quiet times, good talks, having fun, ISO special, good-hearted, commitment-minded lady to share life/love with. ☎849698

BIG LOVELY LADY
SWM, 67, 5'8", retired, homeowner. I am looking for a lady 50-75, to share my many interest. ☎863882

TALL, DARK, & HANDSOME
Financially secure Italian SWM, 43, Pisces, N/S, seeks woman, 20-45, for soulmate in life ☎865696

ECLECTIC INTELLECTUAL
SWM, 5'10", 155lbs, brown hair, 60 looks 40's, aesthetic, affectionate, emotional, cultural. Active, hiking, travel, good communicator. Seeking positive, healthy, communicative relationship ☎868766

A GENTLE STYLE
Because I love. Do you have a sensitive nature too? SWM, 5'11", good-looking, fit and healthy, 56. Seeking friendship, maybe romance. ☎943621

LIKE TO BE KISSED ON THE NECK?
SHM, 48, 5'9", 190lbs, smoker, seeks non-materialistic woman, 20-50, smoker, who desires a new start. ☎865886

NEW TO BAY AREA
SWJM, 55, 5'7", 145lbs, N/S, N/Drugs, never been married, rock-n-roller. Seeking companionship in the Bay Area. Residing in Marin County. Seeking women of color, 40-50. ☎866057

SEEKING OVERWEIGHT WF
Attractive, well-built, sensuous, uninhibited, easygoing artist type WM, 36, Anes, N/S, seeks WF, 18-48, for fun get-togethers at your place. ☎867558

MARRIAGE SUBSCRIBE BALLE
Financially secure, muscular SWM, 55, N/S, seeks busty, dominant SW/HF, 38-50, to serve and adore, for LTR. ☎869538

HOW ABOUT A HOUSE?
SWM, 20, black/brown, student, Virgo, N/S, works in a home improvement store, loves skiing, rock and country music. Seeking woman, 18-45, for dating. ☎870766

ARE YOU THE ONE?
SM, 27, 6'3", seeking a special female to enjoy interest with. Someone who enjoys walks on the beach, rock music, evenings in/out, etc. Call me! ☎872142

PERFECT EXCHANGE
Let's try each other's cooking and talk. Slender SWM, 45, seeks slender woman, 20-48, any race. Enjoys films, nature, dancing. ☎882926

Looking for girl wanting to share home with older guy that needs help and wants or needs the help if this is something you might want to try email me ☎950562

› men seeking men

ADONIS BLACK EX-MARINE
Monogamous, affectionate, cuddly, healthy, and physically sensational, wishes to meet a 60+, mature gent. We won't know unless we try. ☎331245

STRIP MAKER
Clothed, masculine, fit guy gives you orders and gets you on your knees. Safe, painless role-play fun for tnm-wasted guys born after 1960. ☎753246

HORNY GUY WAS A NERD...
to suck a big one. I'll do it your way. Make me your slave. All calls answered. ☎753249

FOREIGN, NON-WHITE
Friendly, open-minded WM is looking to meet another slim guy of a different country or race, 18-48, for friendship and intimate fun. ☎753256

GREAT HEAD FOR MARRIED...
straight, bi or 1st timers 35+. Mellow SWM, 52, HIV-, clean, patient, fun. Own place. No reciprocation required. Be clean, no long hair, drugs. ☎754037

ATTRACTIVE AND FRIENDLY
Asian male, smooth, in-shape, interested in receiving full-body (head to toe) buttocks, chest, feet, etc massage, from experienced masseurs, on a regular basis.Calls answered! ☎754686

POSSIBLE LTR
Attractive, caring, secure, educated SWM, 60, 5'11", 200lbs, smoker, enjoys travel, home time, kissing. Seeking small-framed, smooth SAM, 50+, affectionate, versatile, smoker, with free time. ☎788723

SLIPPERY RECTAL EXAM
Doctor massages your butt hole, jacking you off. Spanking, rimming, sniffing? Shoot big time! Uncut cocks/hairy asses. 20-45/all sizes. ☎791965

NAKED IN THE SHOWER
Slender, masculine WM, 45, N/S, seeks similar man, under 45, N/S, any race, who'd enjoy good clean fun with warm water and bar of soap. ☎863423

WILL YOU BE THERE?
Single male, 41, Aries, N/S, seeks single man, 65-85, who is affectionate, loving, caring, to share quiet evenings and soft music. ☎792325

TOOTHLESS CSL...
wants your dick in my mouth. Nice-looking, senior GWM, 5'8", 160lbs, seeks straight, bi or gay WM to service. ☎833128

› women seeking women

I NEED A FRIEND
GWF, 46, lives in Southern California, seeks GWF, 42-52, for friendship. I need someone to show me around the bay area. N/S, rare drinker ☎767575

SPECIAL LADY
SHF, 52, N/S, seeks fun, special single woman, 39-70, to share shopping, museums, concerts, dining out. ☎784008

SWEET
Good-hearted SF, enjoys shopping, dining out, more. Seeking easygoing SBF, 18-39, N/S, no kids, to share good times talks, friendship and fun. ☎937270

Femme - Talkable, Inquisitive,Laugh easily.Want to know new people over a cup of coffee. Therapist ,homebody, Love family dog lover, Love swimming, sober Social justice important . Seeking woman comfortable in her own body. ☎953757

TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD
PBF, 34, absolutely femme, enjoys getting to know people, sports, jazz, and living life to the fullest. Seeking SF, 18-45 ☎956238 @ KATTYMO

GORGEOUS AND CLASSY
BF, 39, very elegant, professional, compassionate, affectionate. Looking for bisexual woman, any race, for friendship, shopping, movies, dancing. ☎520951

ISO APPLE TRANSPLANT
SBF, 18, 5'4", 138lbs, smoker, loves Jamaican cuisine. Seeking BF, 19-25, smoker, for friendship, possible romance. ☎892389

ARE YOU DOWN
SF, seeking an attractive, honest woman who is not into games and enjoys movies, walks on the beach, theatre and enjoys life. ☎911790

› three's company

SEXY LATINO
white Latin guy, 28, fit, seeks BiF or couple. Looking for a partner to go to swing clubs with? It's me! ☎753054

MIXED COUPLE
Seeking another married, mixed couple like us, AF and WM, who are middle-aged, nice, sexy and enjoy hot, nude occasions together ☎753064

TRIPLE PLAY!
Handsome, discreet, easygoing, imaginative, well built BiWM, Seeks attractive couple, also a lady to swing with. ☎753067

SEEKING SF
East Bay business man seeking SF, in Livermore/Dublin area, for mutual, beneficial encounter. No strings attached. ☎787126

MALE/FEMALE COUPLE SEEKS FEMALE
Happily married couple (male 44, female, 36), seeks a sexy woman to enjoy fun with. Wife interested in another woman. Man watches or joins. ☎789442

› tv/ts

LATIN T-GIRL
Seeking masculine male to have fun with. Let's get together and have some good times. ☎855585

TREAT ME LIKE A LADY
Pretty white male-female TG, 33, 5'10", slim, auburn hair, pre-operative, seeks masculine, dominant B/WM, 30s, 5'10"+, linebacker build a+. ☎894027

LOOKING FOR LUST
transgender female, that is of the african american race. looking to love her for who she. if this ad is for you than send an e-mail ☎950466

EXPLORATION & EXPERIMENTATION
Male, 27, cross-dresser, enjoys wearing short skirts, high heels, nylons. Seeking someone similar who enjoys modeling, dressing up as a woman, and acting the part. ☎817155

› missed connections

EMILY! WE MET AT 111 MINNA...
you gave me a yoyo and phone number, still have the yoyo, lost the phone number. Let's hook up, drink, sing The Foo Fighters. ☎815421

WHERE: CROSS COUNTRY CLUB
You: Blue/Green striped shirt, short hair, great smile, front row for Wand Sykes. Me: Brown shirt, short hair, front row Wanted to slip you my number but was not sure if your companion was a lover or frind. Would like to meet you. ☎909446

I SAT ACROSS
FROM YOU ON THE 38 EARLY ON 6/20
You- brown hair, blue star necklace brown skirt, flip flops, -beautiful. Me- blue cap, sunglases, Jean jacket, headphones. I took off my sunglasses, looked at you as you left the bus. Great energy between us. Lets get together.. ☎919220

CAN WE TALK?
we started a nice conversation about Dostoevsky and Vonnegut on the flight into Oakland. I'd love to continue it... ☎930570

› friends/activities

"PASS THE MULARD"
A tongue-in-cheek dining adventure. Let's excavate gastronomical gems in the Bay area together, from neighborhood spots to putting on the Ritz. ☎732457

LIKE TO SING?
Singer seeks other singers, male or female, as well as acoustic guitarists, for singalongs to the music of the Beatles, Eagles, etc. ☎996276

NEED BOOKWORMS
ISO BM bookworms, 25-42, for intellectual conversations. Clean background. Must like history, politics, current events. Prefer Leos or Virgos. Must be nerdy and wear glasses!!! ☎922768

› kinksters

WANT I WANT
SM, 21, 5'10", clean-cut, looking for sexy, hot, outgoing lady open-minded unencumbered for intimate encounters and adult times. ☎950667

EROTIC VOODOO
Creole BBW, dominant, with huge fat butt, seeks WM, 30-70 must be obedient, hungry, grateful, servant. Oral, anal, toy play. Must be interviewed for opportunity. ☎802472

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Stick to it

By Andrea Nemerson
› andrea@altsexcolumn.com

Dear Andrea:
This might be a little vanilla for you, but I thought I'd chance it.

My boyfriend and I are in our mid-20s, and I'm fairly confident that we'll be married at some point. I'm only the second girl he's slept with, though, and the only girl he's had an orgasm with (they were virgins together: Cute, but really it was the blind leading the blind). I've had a few more partners. I genuinely feel like he should have sex with other women before committing. Do you think the numbers matter? Is he going to wake up at 45 needing something different? Is there any way I can get him to have sex with another woman and not feel like he's cheating on me?
Love,
Commitmentphobe (for him)

Dear 'Phobe:
Well that last part is up to you, isn't it? If you're going to feel like he's cheating even though you pretty much ordered him out the door with your phone number and address pinned to his underpants, there's nothing I can do for you. You're going to have to decide which is more important to you: lifelong fidelity or knowing he's had a look around and still chose you. Without a time machine at your disposal (oh, how I wish I had one, for so many reasons), you're not getting both.

Here are two facts, make of them what you will. (1) Americans, on average, have not had anything like the number of partners racked up by unmarried characters on any sitcom you might watch. At last count by a trustworthy source, half of all adult Americans had had three or fewer sex partners over the course of their lifetimes. More than your boyfriend/husband will have to show for it on his deathbed, should he neither cheat nor obey your order to go out and slut around first, granted, but certainly not what you'd expect from the way people do go on. (2) If he's going to get bored at 45 and need a little something different, that's going to happen whether or not he does the homework you assign him at 25. If it helps, when the data for the landmark "Sex in America" study were collected in the early '90s, it appeared that the vast majority of married or cohabitating couples were in fact faithful to each other, something that, again, you'd never guess from watching TV or movies, or even reading popular or literary fiction.

And, anyway, cheating is not the leading cause of divorce. Many studies point to money or plain old "incompatibility" for that, and not necessarily sexual incompatibility — although that does count. There is even some research showing that "being very unhappy" needn't cause divorce in and of itself: 86 percent of couples who reported being unhappily married in the late '80s described themselves as happier five years later, and indeed most called themselves "very" or "quite" happy by then. It seems that the best indicator of whether a marriage will last is whether the couple *wants* it to last and is willing to stick it out.

I do digress and I do apologize, but I guess what I want you to get here is that projecting your worries into the future (there's that time machine again) is not necessarily the best use of your time while you're young and happy and have a wedding to plan. If you've made the offer ("Sure you don't want to go out and spread it around a little before we settle down?") and he is still not interested, you might want to consider just being glad he's so satisfied with you, and start picking out china patterns.
Love,
Andrea

Dear Andrea:
My boyfriend has described an ex-girlfriend of his as "really great in bed," so I asked him what was great about it. He described her vagina as "ribbed for [his] pleasure" and said that she had muscle striations that gave him a pleasurable sensation because she did Kegel exercises regularly.

I do Kegels regularly too, but obviously he does not consider our respective vaginas to be comparable. Am I doing something wrong? Do I not do it enough? Would one of those weights that you're supposed to put in there help?

I definitely have more "tricks" than that girl, but I want to be considered "great" too!
Love,
Wanna B. Great

Dear Great:
Of course you do. I wonder, deeply and truly, about those "muscle striations" and in fact assume that they were in his head, along with a lot of other muscle and not too much of the more useful sort of tissue. By all means get a barbell-style exerciser if you like — it couldn't hurt — but you're not going to get any more "striated," just stronger. Your boyfriend could get to work developing his tact muscles at the same time, if he knows what's good for him.
Love,
Andrea

Andrea Nemerson has spent the last 14 years as a sex educator and an instructor of sex educators. In her former life, she was a prop designer. Visit www.altsexcolumn.com to view her previous columns.

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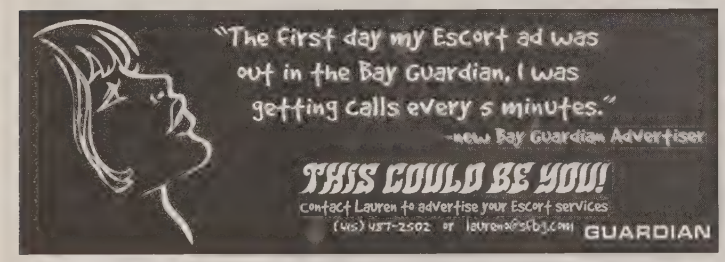
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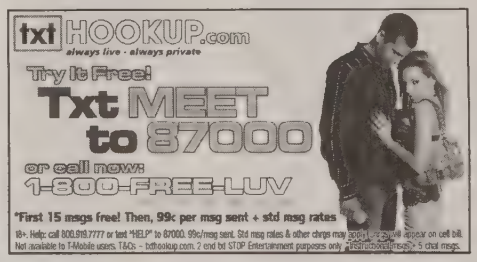
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› man to man

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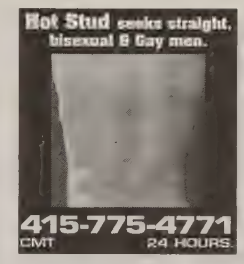

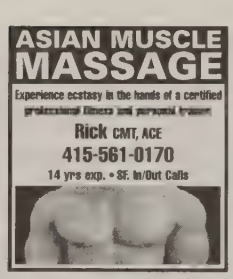

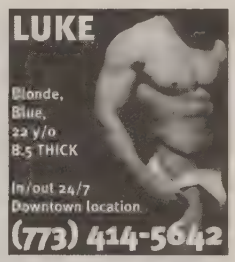

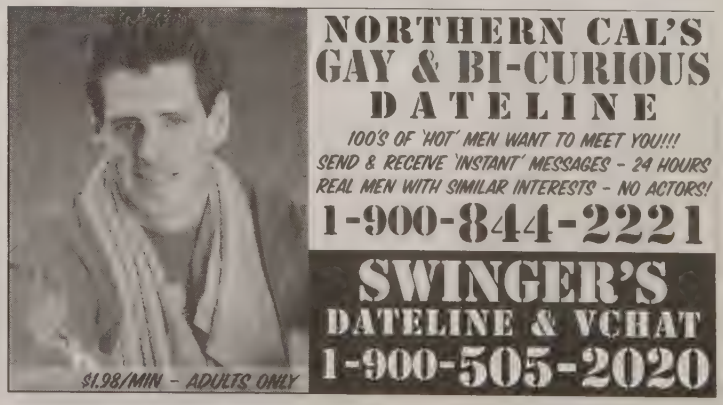

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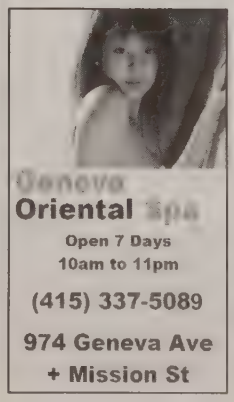

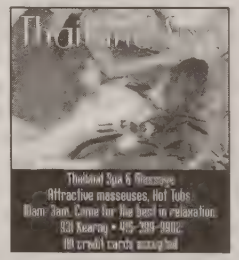

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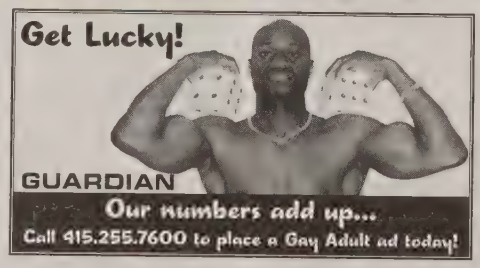

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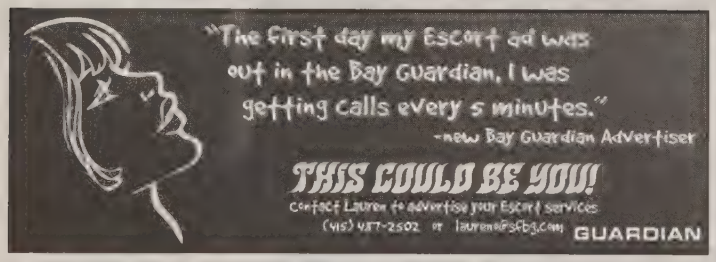
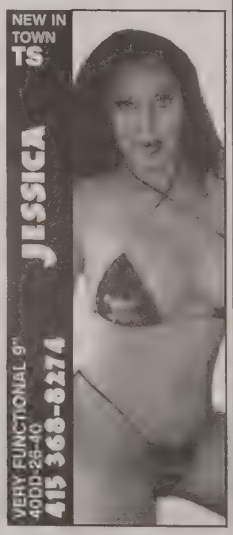
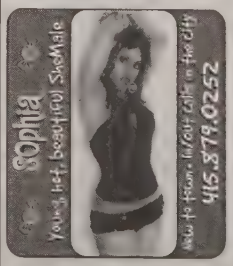


› transsexual





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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293272-00 The following person is doing business as **OLAY SPA**, 815 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA 94109; Juan Chen, 161 Park Plaza Dr. #23, Daly City, CA 94015. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date n/a. Signed Juan Chen. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Maribel Jaldon on April 7, 2006. **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402805**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293013-00 The following person is doing business as **#1 ONLYHALFBOTTLESOFWINE.COM #2 HALFWITWINES.COM #3 HALF WIT WINES INC. #4 HALF WIT WINES #5 ONLYHALFBOTTLESOFCHAMPAGNE.COM**, 830 El Camino Del Mar, San Francisco, CA 94121; DEL MAR INTERNATIONAL, INC. ORGANIZED IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, 830 El Camino Del Mar, San Francisco, CA 94121. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date N/A. Signed Gordon Uhlmann. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Margaret Tseng on March 29, 2006. **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402806**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0292667-00 The following person is doing business as **LYUBA**, 2821 Cabrillo St., San Francisco CA. 94121; Lyubov Traub, 51 Zita Manor, Daly City CA, 94015. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 3/15/06 Signed Lynbov Traub. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Maribel Jaldon on March 15, 2006 **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402807**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293214-00 The following person is doing business as **FARMER BROWN**, 25 Mason St., San Francisco CA, 94103; BLACK RABBIT HOSPITALITY, INC. (CA), 3015 E. Bayshore Rd. #184, Redwood City CA, 94063. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 4/1/06 Signed Glenn Lodet, CEO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Maribel Jaldon on April 5, 2006. **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402809**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0292599-00 The following person is doing business as **CAF... IL LATTE (RED WINDOW CAF...)**, 754 Post St., San Francisco CA, 94109; Kerry L. , 378 N. Delaware St., San Mateo CA, 94401. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 3/13/06. Signed Kerry L. Chan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by M. Lucas Rebston on March 13, 2006. **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402810**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293439-00 The following person is doing business as **LAZARUS HOUSE HEALING BY FAITH MINISTRY**, 5 Cameron Way, San Francisco CA, 94124; Stephanie Hughes, 5 Cameron Way, San Francisco CA, 94124. This business is conducted by an individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 4/13/06. Signed STEPHANIE HUGHES. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Jennifer Venegas on April 13, 2006. **April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2006. L#402904**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293442-00 The following person is doing business as **GOLDEN GATE CONNECTION INC.**, 20 Chenory Street, San Francisco CA, 94131; Golden Gate Connection Inc., 20 Chenory Street, San Francisco CA, 94131. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 4/13/06. Signed TANIA SHERTOCK. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by M. Lucas Rebston on April 13, 2006. **April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2006. L#402908**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293614-00 The following person is doing business as **JAMA DESIGNS**, 513B Sinomnds Loop, San Francisco CA, 94129; Mary K. Austin, 513B Sinomnds Loop, San Francisco CA, 94129. This business is conducted by a individual. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 4/17/06. Signed Mary Austin. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Margaret Tseng on April 19, 2006. **April 26, May 3, 10, 17 2006. L#403001**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293835-00 The following person is doing business as **GOLDEN BAY REALTY & LOAN**, 109 Bartlett Street, San Francisco CA, 94110; Alfonso Rodreguez, Inc. Incorporated in California, 320 Coronado Ave., Half Moon Bay CA, 94019. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date N/A. Signed Alfonso Rodriguez, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Margaret Tseng on April 28, 2006. **May 3, 10, 17, 24 2006. L#403101**

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. A-0293734-00 The following person is doing business as **TMC DEVELOPMENT**, 611 Front Street, San Francisco CA, 94111; The Morttgage Development Corporation, a California Corporation, 611 Front Street, San Francisco CA, 94111. This business is conducted by a corporation. Registrant commenced business under the above-listed fictitious business name on the date 2/1/96 Signed Barbara Morrison, President. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA by Margaret Tseng on April 25, 2006. **May 3, 10, 17, 24 2006. L#403102**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE To Whom It May Concern: The name of the applicant is: BARSOTTI BROTHERS INCORPORATED. The applicant listed above are applying to The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: #1 Ferry Building, San Francisco, CA 94111. Type of license Applied for: 41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE. **April 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402905**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE To Whom It May Concern: The name of the applicant is: JT ISLAND CAFE INC. The applicant listed above are applying to The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 901 Taraval Street, San Francisco, CA 94116. Type of license Applied for: 41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE. **April 19, 2006. L#403101**

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CHANGE IN OWNERSHIP OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE To Whom It May Concern: The name of the applicant is: TAMANO HIROKO, TAMANO KOICHI. The applicant listed above are applying to The Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 3856 24TH Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Type of license Applied for: 41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE - EATING PLACE. **May 3, 2006. L#4031030RDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND GENDER** CASE NUMBER: CNC 06542694. SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, 400 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94102-4514. PETITION OF STEPHEN V. CARTA. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: STEPHEN V. CARTA, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing petitioner's name to (proposed name): VICTORIA OLESHA CARTA Petitioner has also filed a petition for a decree changing petitioner's gender from male to female and for the issuance of a new birth certificate reflecting the gender and name changes THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: June 8, 2006 Time: 9:00 AM room- 218. Dated April 4, 2006 Endorsed Filed, San Francisco County Superior Court on April 4, 2006 by Gordon Park-Li, Clerk by Elias Butt, Deputy Clerk. Signed Robert L. Dondero, Judge of the Superior Court on April 4, 2006. **April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2006 L#402901**

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND GENDER CASE NUMBER: CNC - 06542366. SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, 400 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94102-4514. PETITION OF BYRON PHILIP HALETSKY. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: BYRON PHILIP HALETSKY, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing petitioner's name to (proposed name): ALESIA TONYA PHILIPS. Petitioner has also filed a petition for a decree changing petitioner's gender from male to female and for the issuance of a new birth certificate reflecting the gender and name changes. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: May 30, 2006. Time: 9:00 AM room-218. Dated April 4, 2006. Endorsed Filed, San Francisco County Superior Court on April 4, 2006 by Gordon Park-Li, Clerk by Jun P. Panelo, Deputy Clerk. Signed Robert L. Dondero, Judge of the Superior Court on April 4, 2006. **April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2006 L#402902ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND GENDER** CASE NUMBER. CNC - 06542868. SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, 400 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94102-4514. PETITION OF LAUREN AILENE SCOTT. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: LAUREN AILENE SCOTT., filed a petition with this court for a decree changing petitioner's name to (proposed name): LOREN AIDEN SCOTT. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: June 15, 2006. Time: 9:00 AM room-218. Dated April 5, 2006. Endorsed Filed, San Francisco County Superior Court on April 5, 2006 by Gordon Park-Li, Clerk by Deborah Stepp, Deputy Clerk. Signed Robert L. Dondero, Judge of the Superior Court on April 5, 2006. **April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2006 L#402902**

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME AND GENDER CASE NUMBER: CNC - 06542882. SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, 400 McAllister St., San Francisco, CA 94102-4514. PETITION OF RICARDO CASILLAS GOMEZ. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: RICARDO CASILLAS GOMEZ, filed a petition with this court for a decree changing petitioner's name to (proposed name): YAHAIRA CASILLAS GOMEZ. Petitioner has also filed a petition for a decree changing petitioner's gender from male to female and for the issuance of a new birth certificate reflecting the gender and name changes. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: June 6, 2006. Time: 9:00 AM room- 218. Dated April 12, 2006. Endorsed Filed, San Francisco County Superior Court on April 12, 2006 by Gordon Park-Li, Clerk by Jun P. Panelo, Deputy Clerk. Signed Robert L. Dondero, Judge of the Superior Court on April 12, 2006. **April 26, May 3, 10, 17 2006 L#403003**

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME Endorsed FILED San Francisco County Superior Court, April 18, 2006 by Gordon Park-Li, Clerk. CASE NUMBER: CNC 06542907 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO SUPERIOR COURT, 400 McAllister Street, room 103, San Francisco, CA 94102. PETITIONS OF GINA T GUITRON for Change of name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: GINA T GUITRON filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: present names GINA T GUITRON to proposed names G. MAKANI YOSHIZAWA. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in said matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING Date: 6/22/06 Time: 9:00 AM room- 218 Dated April 18, 2006 by Robert L. Dondero, Presiding Judge **April 26, May 3, 10, 17, 2006. L#403001**

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME The following person have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: OLAY SPA Located at: 815 Hyde St., San Francisco, CA 94109. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco under File# A-0291326-00 on: 1/23/06 NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRANTS (as shown on previous statement): YANSI WU, 1354 Powell St. #318, San Francisco, CA 94133. This business was conducted by a general partnership. Signed JUAN CHEN. Dated: April 7, 2006, by Maribel Jaldon, Deputy County Clerk. **April 12, 19, 26, May 3, 2006. L#402804**

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME The following person have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: BAY AREA ATTENDANT & SEVRETARIAL SERVICES Located at: 3288 21st St. #29, San Francisco, CA 94110. The fictitious business name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco under File# 2004-0281094 30 on: 12/1/04. NAME AND ADDRESS OF REGISTRANTS (as shown on previous statement): TERI ANGST, 3288 21st St. #29, San Francisco, CA 94110. This business was conducted by an individual. Signed TERI ANGST. Dated: April 6, 2006, by Margaret Tseng, Deputy County Clerk **April 19, 26, May 3, 10, 2006. L#402909**

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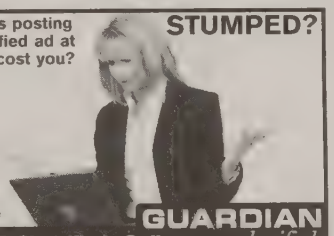

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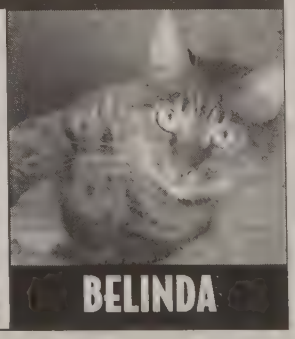

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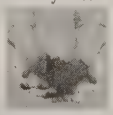

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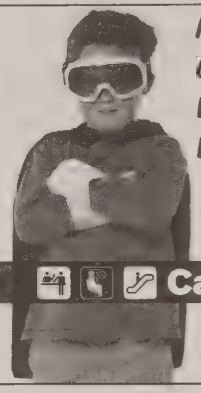

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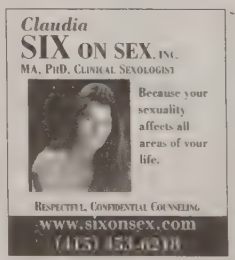

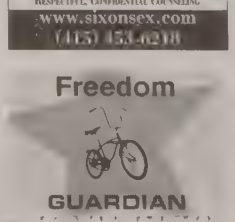

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